Hafa Adai!

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CNMI soon to see increase in workforce training funds

» Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act awaits Obama signature
» CNMI DOL to wait for TEGAL from federal grantor

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

A bill that would consolidate job-training programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 into a single funding stream, reform and strengthen the workforce investment of the United States and its territories, and put people back to work now awaits the signature of President Barack Obama.

H.R. 803, or the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, passed Congress by a vote of 415-6 on July 9 and was transmitted to the President on Tuesday.

According to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), the passage of H.R. 803 means that the CNMI will soon "get additional help to bring U.S workers into the labor force."

H.R. 803 will reauthorize appropria-

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COURTESY CALL

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, shares a moment with Manny the Tataga, the mascot of the Managaha Marine Sanctuary. The sea dweller paid a visit to the Office of the Governor as part of the awareness campaign on the sanctuary spearheaded by the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish & Wildlife. Also in photo are Kodep Uludong from MINA, DFW Director Manny Pangelinan, and DLNR Secretary Arnold Palacios.

Mondala pleads not guilty

Former Office on Aging director Rose DLG. Mondala pleaded not guilty yesterday to the 41 criminal charges that the Office of the Public Auditor filed against her.

Mondala

At the arraignment, the 69-year-old Mondala, through counsel assistant public defender Eden Schwartz, waived the reading of her constitutional rights and pleaded not guilty.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja set a status conference on Aug. 26, 2014.

Office of the Public Auditor legal

See MONDALA on Page 4

Palestinian death toll in Gaza reaches 508

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—The U.N. chief and the U.S. secretary of state headed to Cairo on Monday to try to end two weeks of Israel-Hamas fighting that has killed at least 508 Palestinians and 20 Israelis and displaced tens of thousands of Gaza residents.

The new cease-fire efforts by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry followed the deadliest day of fighting since the escalation erupted on July 8.

In New York, the U.N. Security Council expressed "serious concern" about Gaza's rising civilian death toll and demanded an immediate end to the fighting following an emergency session.

As Israeli airstrikes continued to pound Gaza, rescue workers near the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis were digging out bodies early Monday from

See PALESTINIAN on Page 4

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Local

NMTI reaches out to PSS and Education Board

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Agnes McPhetres, CEO of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, reached out to the Public School System's Board of Education last Friday and asked for its help in completing " a true educational circle" within the Commonwealth.

"I have been appointed as the CEO for NMTI for at least one year, and I'm working to look and review this institute as a very valuable institute in our overall educational system in the CNMI," McPhetres told the board.

In an interview, McPhetres described the concept of an education circle as one that sees the educational institutions of the Commonwealth as linked—with PSS, the Northern Marinas College, and NMTI working together to build a better workforce and community.

McPhetres pointed out that as NMC moves to expand its four-year degree programs, it has also chosen to abandon developing its vocational training program.

She said she understands the college's decision, but now it creates a gap within the community's education needs. However, she said NMTI can rise to "fill the gaps."

McPhetres also shared with the board NMTI's plan to transform itself into a charter school.

"The Legislature is looking to make [NMTI] a charter school for technical education, which will clarify the nebulousness of utilizing public funds in a private school," McPhetres said.

According to her, a charter school can receive assistance from both local and federal sources.

Board chair Herman Guerrero offered his support to McPhetres. "We'll encourage [Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan] to work closely [with NMTI]. It is may be run more efficiently than other educational systems because it is essentially a "flat system."

She said organization-wise there may be less bureaucracy and, because of this, more money flows effectively to the students.

Presently, she is working on developing the methodology of NMTI's courses, with a shared core of applied math, computer literacy, and applied English, while nurturing the institution's main focuses on construction craft, auto mechanics, culinary arts, and hotel and hospitality.

She told *Saipan Tribune* that NMIT's development of would be a "vital move" in helping the community as it meets the workforce needs left by departing contract workers and a growing hotel and tourism industry.

She emphasized that foreigners as well as local workers may want the qualifications a vocational and technical school has to offer.

'MORE FUNDS FOR PSS' DENNIS B. CHAN

Board of Education members led by chair Herman Guerrero join Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan and Public School System students last Friday to hold up a banner in support of House Legislative Initiative 18-12, which seeks to increase funding for PSS to 25 percent of the government's annual budget.

NBG to test its Giant Voice system

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam will conduct a test of its broadcast system, commonly known as the Giant Voice, at 8am and 6:30pm on July 25.

During this test, the national anthem and evening colors will be played in preparation for its official launch.

Naval Base Guam plans to play the national anthem and evening colors on the Giant Voice starting on Aug. 1. It was originally scheduled to begin on July 4 but was postponed due to technical difficulties.

It is a time-honored tradition to play the national anthem while raising the U.S. flag on a military installation. This time it is referred to as "Colors." Currently, the anthem and evening colors are played at the NBG headquarters daily.

The Giant Voice will be activated in the following areas: Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Guam, South Finegayan housing, Flag Circle, I Puntan at Nimitz Hill, North and South Tipalao, Camp Covington, Apra View, Naval Magazine site (upper and lower), Lockwood Housing, U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, U.S. Coast Guard and Polaris Point.

Residents and patrons in the surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear increased activity associated with the test. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
State Rehabilitation Council
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2014 Third General Membership Meeting on Friday, July 25, 2014 at the Pacific Islands Club – Napu Room, from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2014 Second General Membership Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2014
V. Reports
a. SRC Chairperson
b. Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson
c. Employment and Marketing Committee Chairperson
d. Transition and Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
e. Transportation, Housing, and Advocacy Committee Chairperson
f. OVR Director
VI. Old Business
a. FY 2015 State Plan Update
b. FY 2014 Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment Final Report
VII. New Business
a. Employer Survey Questions for National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)
b. Memoranda of Understanding
VIII. Consumer Forum
IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous
X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) three days before the meeting.

/s/ ISIDRO K. SEMAN
Chairperson

This advertisement is paid for with Federal funds made possible by a grant from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **July 22**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **July 22**.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on July 24

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, July 24, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(CCA)***

CCA board meeting on July 22

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, July 22, 2014, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(CCA)***

OPA: Fitial's interpretation of statute absurd, incorrect

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former governor Benigno R. Fitial's assertion that the Public Auditor has no authority to bring the charges against him is based on incorrect interpretation of a statute that would result in absurdities, according to OPA legal counsel George L. Hasselback.

In the CNMI government's opposition to Fitial's motion to dismiss the charges, Hasselback asked the Superior Court to reject Fitial's interpretation of the statute (Section 7847) as this "would result in absurdities."

Fitial, through counsel Stephen N. Nutting, argued that the Legislature had no authority to grant to the Public Auditor the power to prosecute a criminal complaint, especially when that power was afforded to the Attorney General under the CNMI Constitution.

Even if the statute were constitutional, it did not give the Public Auditor the authority to bring criminal charges against a former governor, and now, private citizen, said Nutting in a motion to dismiss.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman will hold a hearing on the motion to dismiss tomorrow, Wednesday, at 1:30pm.

In the government's opposition filed Friday, Hasselback cited the absurdities as a result of the incorrect interpretation of the statute.

For instance, Hasselback said, consider the situation that could arise if an investigation of allegations of criminal activity on the part of a sitting attorney general or governor were undertaken by OPA pursuant to Section 7847.

"Like any other criminal investigation, evidence would be gathered, documents secured and copied and witnesses interviewed," Hasselback said.

He said depending upon the complexity of the legal issues involved, dozens, if not hundreds of man-hours would be spent conducting the investigation.

Hasselback said that, according to Fitial's interpretation of the statute, the authority to continue that investigation and/or bring a criminal case based upon that investigation would disappear entirely if the target of the investigation left their position as AG or governor for any reason whatsoever.

Hasselback said the entire investigation would grind to a halt, because there would be no statutory authority to continue it.

"The Public Auditor would lack the ability to put to use all of the information gathered in the investigation, as he or she would lack the authority to prosecute the case," he pointed out.

Hasselback said such a potential waste of time, money, and resources cannot be what was intended by the CNMI Legislature and cannot be the result of a reasonable reading of the statute.

The OPA counsel said not only does this interpretation disregard the basic sentence structure of the statute, but such an interpretation would also result in absurd applications that would waste time, money and resources of the government, as to render the entire statute useless.

Hasselback said the entirety of Fitial's argument rests upon a flawed interpretation of the CNMI Constitution that concludes that the Office of the Attorney General is vested with exclusive jurisdiction over the prosecution of violations of the CNMI Criminal Code.

Hasselback said the CNMI Supreme Court will likely rule that, contrary to Fitial's argument, the "power to prosecute" granted to the OAG "is not absolute" and "OPA's duty to investigate and prosecute the AG" is part of a "system of checks and balances, which included the creation of the OPA to serve as a sentinel against government malfeasance."

Hasselback said Fitial misapplies a nonexistent standard for dismissal in a criminal case.

He said the defendant's arguments disregard the Commonwealth Rules of Criminal Procedure and attempt to inappropriately lure the court into a pretrial fact-finding venture prior to the establishment of any factual record.

Hasselback also asserted, among other things, that the Public Auditor may bring charges under the statute at any time he believes there to be "reasonable grounds" notwithstanding any previous action or inaction by his office so long as he is not barred by any statute of limitation.

On May 1, 2014, OPA filed a complaint charging Fitial with 10 various criminal charges. OPA later amended the information to include three more charges.

The charges are related to the unauthorized release of a federal inmate, award of a sole-source American Recovery and Reinvestment Act contract, shielding of former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham from being served with penal summons, and the execution of a power purchase agreement contract related to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Fitial, 68, pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Five sentenced in Guam district court

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, United States Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, announced that five more defendants who were witnesses in the *U.S. v. Mateo B. Sardoma, Jr. aka "Mat", Rudy P.H. Sablan, Maria C. Edrosa aka "Cristina", et al*. trial were sentenced by Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, as follows:

■ James Pangelinan, 44, was sentenced on July 6, 2014, to time served followed by four years of supervised release. Pangelinan pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Pangelinan assisted co-defendant Ana Toves in selling methamphetamine for Mateo Sardoma, Jr. and Rudy Sablan.

■ Sylvia Mashburn Duenas, 30, was sentenced on July 8, 2014, to 37 months incarceration followed by five years of supervised release. Duenas pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Defendant Duenas assisted Mateo Sardoma, Jr. in obtaining the methamphetamine.

■ Christopher A.D. Mesa, 33, was sentenced on July 9, 2014, to 51 months incarceration followed by five years of supervised release. Mesa pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and aiding and abetting the brandishing of a firearm during a drug crime in aid of Mateo B. Sardoma, Jr.

■ Anthony Villanueva, 48, was sentenced on July 10, 2014, to 46 months incarceration followed by five years of supervised release. Villanueva pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Villanueva assisted Mateo Sardoma, Jr. by supplying a post office box for Mateo Sardoma, Jr. to bring methamphetamine into Guam.

■ Paul Perez, 47, was sentenced on July 10, 2014, to 48 months imprisonment and five years of supervised release. Perez pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Perez received a shipment of methamphetamine on behalf of Mateo B. Sardoma, Jr. and mailed some of the cash profits to California.

Limtiaco stated, "Our community is not immune from the poison of methamphetamine. These cases illustrate the hard work our partners in law enforcement do every day to stop the distribution of methamphetamine into Guam."

These three defendants were witnesses in the *U.S. v. Mateo B. Sardoma, Jr. aka "Mat", Rudy P.H. Sablan, Maria C. Edrosa aka "Cristina", et al.*, which is the product of an extensive investigation by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, a focused multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional task force investigating and prosecuting the most significant drug trafficking organizations throughout the United States by leveraging the combined expertise of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

The investigations were conducted by Special Agents and Task Force Officers at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security-Homeland Security Investigations, and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The cases were prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Fred Black. ***(USAO)***

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Investor seeks court order to sell Quichocho properties

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

An investor has asked the federal court to take possession of real properties owned by disbarred lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho and his uncle, Joaquin Q. Atalig, and sell them to satisfy a $192,328 court judgment.

Sin Ho Nam, through counsel Stephen J. Nutting, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue a writ of execution and an order for the sale of real properties after Quichocho and Atalig failed to make a single payment on their settlement agreement.

» Lawyer, uncle fail to make payment on $192K judgment despite 2 settlement deals

Writ of execution refers to a court's order to the sheriff or other similar official that allows the sheriff to collect money or take possession of property owned by a judgment debtor.

Nam had sued Quichocho and Atalig in 2010 for breaching a land lease agreement after they terminated a 55-year lease on a property located at Ladder Beach after less than two years, despite having already paid them $218,000.

The federal court awarded summary judgment on Nam's claim, but the lawsuit was later dismissed after the parties entered into a settlement agreement.

In August 2012, Nam filed a new lawsuit against the defendants for allegedly deceiving him in settling his previous lawsuit by promising to pay him $228,000 within 160 days. Nam said the defendants paid him only $16,800.

Quichocho

The parties then reached a second settlement agreement and the matter was dismissed.

In Nam's application for writ of execution filed yesterday, Nutting said the defendants failed to make a single payment on their second settlement.

Nutting asked the court to order the sale of three real properties that the defendants mortgaged to secure the payment of the sums due under the settlement agreement.

Last week, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered Quichocho's disbarment from the practice of law in CNMI courts for professional misconduct in representing his then-client, Jung Ja Kim.

Also last week, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered a public reprimand against Quichocho for professional misconduct in connection with another Bar complaint filed by a couple.

Last March 28, a federal jury reached a unanimous verdict, holding Quichocho and his wife, and his law firm liable to pay $2.4 million in damages to Jung Ja Kim, who filed a racketeering lawsuit against them.

Smoke rises after an Israeli missile hit Shijaiyah neighborhood in Gaza City, northern Gaza Strip, Sunday, July 20, 2014. AP

PALESTINIAN

From Page 1

the one-story home of the Abu Jamea family, flattened in one of the strikes overnight, said Ashraf al-Kidra, a Gaza health ministry official.

Al-Kidra said the Palestinian death toll from the two-week offensive stood at 508 as of Monday morning. More than half of those victims—268—were killed since an Israeli ground operation in Gaza began late Thursday.

That total included 20 bodies that were found at the site near Khan Younis, where two people were pulled alive from the rubble, Al-Kidra said.

Elsewhere in Gaza, he said, Israeli tanks opened fire on the home of the Siyam family west of Rafah in the southern part of the strip, killing 10 people, including four young children and a 9-month-old baby girl.

"Without any warning at all they began bombarding us at midnight, at 2 a.m., said Dr. Mahmoud Siyam, the head of the family. "We are not related to any military or political activities. We are civilized people (living) in this area of Gaza, what crime have we committed?"

Meanwhile, the Israeli military said it foiled a Hamas infiltration attempt on Monday through two tunnels leading from northern Gaza into southern Israel. The military said 10 infiltrators were killed after being detected and targeted by Israeli aircraft.

On Sunday, the first major ground battle in two weeks of Israel-Hamas fighting exacted a steep price, killing 65 Palestinians and 13 Israeli soldiers and forcing thousands of terrified Palestinian civilians to flee their devastated Shijaiyah neighborhood, which Israel says is a major source for rocket fire against its civilians.

Large sections of Shijaiyah were pulverized by a barrage of Israeli tank and artillery bombardments and repeated Israeli air strikes that buffeted the densely populated neighborhood for most of Sunday.

Speaking on national television shortly after the military announced the deaths of the 13 Israeli soldiers, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the Gaza offensive would continue "as long as necessary" to end attacks from Gaza on Israeli civilians.

Appearing with Netanyahu, Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon said that Israel expected to complete its work neutralizing the Hamas tunnels leading into Israeli territory within several days—a possible hint of a timeframe for the end of the operation.

Still, much work remains if diplomats are to succeed in brokering a sustainable cease-fire. On Sunday, Kerry said the U.S. still supports the Egyptian proposal for a halt to the hostilities that Israel accepted and Hamas rejected last week.

Hamas remains deeply suspicious of the motives of the Egyptian government, which has banned the Muslim Brotherhood, a group that Hamas closely identifies with.

The 13 Israeli soldiers who died in Shijaiyah brought the overall Israeli death toll to 20, including two civilians who died from rocket and mortar fire directed at Israeli towns and villages from different parts of Gaza.

On Sunday evening, Hamas spokesman Mushir al-Masri in Gaza claimed his group had captured an Israeli soldier. An announcement on Gaza TV of the soldier's capture set off celebration in the streets of West Bank.

But there was no official confirmation of the claim in Israel. Earlier, the Israeli ambassador to the U.N., Ron Prosor, said the Hamas claim was untrue.

For Israelis, a captured soldier would be a nightmare scenario. Hamas-allied militants seized an Israeli soldier in a cross-border raid in 2006 and held him captive in Gaza until Israel traded more than 1,000 Palestinian prisoners, some of whom were involved in grisly killings, for his return in 2011.

WORKFORCE

From Page 1

tions for workforce investment systems for job training and employment services and adult education and family literacy programs.

The bill requires a state board to assist the governor by developing policies and programs to support a comprehensive statewide workforce development system and a statewide workforce and labor market information system.

"It is designed to give governors and workforce investment boards greater flexibility to use the money to meet local job needs," Sablan said.

H.R. 803 requires strategies and services to engage employers and meet their needs and help at-risk youth and out-of-school youth in acquiring education, skills, credentials, and employment experience.

"Another important change are the new benchmarks to ensure that those who get training emerge with the skills and certifications they can use to get jobs," Sablan said.

The bill also requires a plan on how states will provide employment training, including in advanced manufacturing, as well as supportive and placement services for veterans, including disabled and homeless veterans.

The bill will also require states to put in place strategies and services that will be used to assist and expedite reintegration of homeless veterans into the workforce.

Once the President signs the bill into law, it will allow a state to require local boards for a designated region to prepare a single plan that incorporates the elements of the local plan and is approved in lieu of separate local plans.

"The bill also focuses more of the funding set aside for youth under the age of 24 to those who are out of school," Sablan said.

A stronger workforce

In an earlier statement, U.S Labor Secretary Thomas E. Perez said the bill is good for workers, employers, and the economy as a whole.

"It will help more people succeed in 21st century jobs and punch their ticket to the middle class. And it will help businesses hire the world-class, highly-skilled workforce required to complete successfully in the global economy," Perez stated.

He also stated the bill would align with regional economics and strengthen the network of about 2,500 American Job Centers, to deliver more comprehensive services to workers, job seekers, and employers.

"The bill will build closer ties among key workforce partners as we strive for a more job-driven approach to training and skills development," Perez said.

"Better-trained workers; more profitable businesses; stronger, smarter investments in our people and our economy. Congress has demonstrated that these are principles that transcend partisanship," he added.

According to Perez, Obama will sign the bill because it will build "a stronger workforce for our nation."

CNMI DOL to wait for TEGAL

According to CNMI Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero, if the President signs the bill, her department will be waiting for a "training and employment guidance letter" from their federal grantor.

CNMI Labor is under Region VI of San Francisco, Calif.

Deleon Guerrero did note that she recently visited San Francisco to discuss workforce development with the regional office.

"There will be a lot of changes and it will pretty much supersedes [local efforts] because it will be played at the state level," Deleon Guerrero said.

"Its not final. Responsibility will fall under the grantor agency and will meet the intent and spirit of the law. So we're watching for that," Deleon Guerrero said.

Sablan said that as a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, "which had jurisdiction" over the bill, he is satisfied with the impact it will have on "our job training" efforts in the NMI.

MONDALA

From Page 1

counsel George Hasselback appeared for the prosecution.

Hasselback charged Mondala with 22 counts of forgery; six counts of misconduct in public office; eight counts of use of public supplies, time and personnel for campaign activities; two counts of use of public position to obtain benefits for business or social acquaintances; one count of theft of services; one count of theft; and one count of use of office, staff or employees of a public office for personal benefit.

OPA accused the defendant of using the Aging Office's funds and materials for the needs of the Covenant Party during the 2009 elections and to build a fence at her house in Kagman.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo released Mondala on a $7,500 unsecured or appearance bond during her initial appearance last June 27. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CPUC to craft order on release of regulation costs

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission is now in the process of crafting a reporting mechanism that will show the public the regulation costs of CPUC, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and other parties involved.

"In all fairness to the public, everything should be laid out on the table on what [CUC and other parties] are spending on regulation rather than going through every two years having another rate case about fees," CPUC chair Joseph Guerrero said.

Guerrero instructed CPUC hearing examiner Harry Boertzel to craft the order and link up all costs of regulation in its entirety.

The subject came up after Guerrero announced that the regulatory body has seen some reports of regulation costs from their consultant, Georgetown Consulting, but not from CUC.

Guerrero said that members of the public have questioned the fees and costs that CUC and other parties incur whenever they file a rate petition with the commission.

"Everything has to be substantiated," said Guerrero, referring to the reporting mechanism that they are now crafting.

He said the "serious allegation" that CUC pays too much for Georgetown's fees and the cost of the hearing examiner is unsubstantiated and that everybody should know what has been spent.

"I think we can all agree that regulation is necessary and without regulation it may cost more," Guerrero said.

CPUC commissioner Dave Guerrero said that it is really a question of evaluating the regulatory body, the costs, and how effective the regulatory body is.

"Are we overspending compared to other jurisdictions? Are our consultants overcharging? I just don't want to leave it out for the people to choose. I'd rather we have a report out there to show what we have spent, including CUC," Dave Guerrero said.

He also said such a report would help to keep track of costs, "just as a transparency so that people know that the taxpayer dollars are being used wisely and they can comment freely on the report."

Joseph Guerrero noted that the allegations really hit the "heart of the commission," which the Legislature intended the regulatory body to do.

CPUC commissioner Oscar Quituga agreed that the parties should release the information and that the order be crafted.

"They [the public] want to be assured that the commission and all parties' costs are prudent, reasonable, and just," Joseph Guerrero said.

The proposed reporting mechanism will be discussed at the regulatory body's meeting this week.

EYESORE
A fiesta of soda cans, beer cans, and plastic plates and bags litter the grass of a pavilion at Kilili Beach. Most pavilions on Saipan are desecrated with the sight of strewn garbage after the weekend, when roaming dogs root through the garbage cans and bags for food. DENNIS B. CHAN

NMC prepares to market business degree program

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is readying for a campaign of traditional advertising, social media, and special events as the first semester of its new bachelor's degree in business management arrives for interested students this fall semester.

The college was green-lighted to proceed with the program after it secured its accreditation under the WASC Senior College and University Commission. Under its previous junior accreditation, the college was only allowed to offer a bachelor's degree in education.

Bobbi Merfalen, NMC's dean of Academic Programs and Services, said she is excited for the college's new program.

"The team at the Business Department has been working very hard to make the necessary preparations to ensure a high quality program that's ready to engage students who are prepared to further their business and leadership training."

The college says the business degree will balance the theoretical aspects of an academic bachelor's degree with the practical approach of an applied business degree.

Knowledge, competence, and ability in business and management will be provided, along with core skills: critical thinking, problem solving, and management skills.

According to the college, students will understand what is takes to exemplify the professionalism and ethical standards in today's professional practice.

The program is meant to attract those who want to develop the business and management skills they need to ascend the corporate ladder or to begin and manage their own businesses.

The program is also meant to attract students from off-island as international or foreign students seeking qualification in business management.

The college said students can expect the bachelor's degree to take four years to complete, with the associate degree taking up to two years. However, the college emphasized that timelines differ from student to student as the hours committed to study, the amount of credits taken per semester, and the credits transferred into the program, and even one's determination may vary.

The college noted that successful students who commit 20 hours or more per week to their studies often finish programs sooner.

The college said students can expect to become qualified for jobs in local, national, and international industries.

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CTSI Logistics is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Sales & Marketing Manager
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Sales or Marketing or any Business course and at least 3 years of managerial work experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations are a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Logistics Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course and with at least 6 years management experience in the logistics business with emphasis on airfreight, ocean freight forwarding, warehousing and fuel hauling operations. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, Environmental and Occupational Safety Hazards is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Accounting Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course in accounting with at least 5 years experience in financial management: directing the preparation of financial reports; implementing cash management; and directing investment activities for a logistics supply chain business operations. Must have excellent written communication and analysis skills for financial data reporting. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics software are a must. Expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point is required. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Accountant
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 3 years work experience in financial management for a logistics/supply chain business or agency operations. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics systems. Must have expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Storage and Distribution Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years of distribution and warehousing supervisory experience. Knowledge of household goods handling and airfreight and oceanfreight operations is required. Proficiency in Warehouse management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Shipping Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of shipping, receiving and warehousing supervisory experience is required. Proficiency in shipping operations, shipping documentation & cargo management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, 49 CFR & IMDG Code is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines. Knowledge of bill of ladings, scheduling and planning inbound and outbound shipments is a must.

Transportation Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of logistics and trucking operations supervisory experience is required. Must be knowledgeable in transportation and safety regulations and proficient in various logistic software. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Freight Forwarding Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years experience in freight forwarding operations and 1-year experience in transportation security and communication related activities. Knowledge of TSA security regulations and proficiency in TSA Known Shipper Management System are a must. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation and IATA related trainings. Proficiency in airfreight documentation, freight forwarding software, FEDEX systems and operations are a must. Must be familiar with airline operations and regulations.

Sales Officer
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations are a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Cargo and Freight Agent (5)
Associate's Degree with a minimum of 2 years experience in a logistics, freight brokerage or warehouse services business. Must know how to operate a forklift with certification. Must be able to do strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of small items on the job. Licensed to drive 4x6 wheel closed vans and must have obtained training or certification in handling hazardous materials, Occupational Safety, Hazardous Waste Operation and IAC CCSF authorized screener. Must be proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs and available to work on evenings and weekend hours.

Specialized Truck Driver (7)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Must have at least 3 years experience in hauling petroleum products with the corresponding SMITHS & STOPS training certification, carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Heavy Equipment Truck Driver (3)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Experience in carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Shipping and Receiving Clerk (5)
Associate's Degree and at least 2 years work related experience. Must be proficient in MS Office programs as well as other planning and logistics software. Knowledge of supply chain, shipping operations and procedures, document preparation and recordkeeping is required. Should possess good interpersonal and verbal communication skills.

Truck Mechanic
Vocational or High School Graduate. Must be able to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, or maintain and repair any type of engines. Minimum of two (2) year work experience is required on these areas: lubrication, repairs and servicing, use of machine tools, welding and flame cutting, engine elements, gears, brakes, transmission, exhausts, etc. Proficiency in critical devices for fuel tank trucks is a must.

Automotive Body Repairer
Formal Auto Body Training in a Vocational School is required as well as a minimum of one-year experience in repairing and refinishing automotive vehicle bodies' vehicle frames. Proficiency in automotive body painting is required.

Janitor
Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should submit resume / application to CTSI Logistics, Lower Base not later than August 01, 2014.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

Is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant positions

Position: (2) SOUS CHEF
Qualifications: Ability to direct and participate in the preparation and cooking of food. Must be able to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends. 5 years work experience as a Sous Chef is required and preferably in the hospitality industry.

Position: (2) BARTENDER
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent with minimum 2 years work experience in the preparation of mixed cocktails required. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Able to work flexible hours including evenings and/or weekends.

Position: (2) F&B SUPERVISOR
Qualifications: Strong customer service skills and people oriented. Must be reliable and self-motivated. Is able to stand for long periods of time and lift up to 25 pounds. Minimum 3 years work experience as F&B supervisor preferably in a hotel. Foreign language skill a plus. Must be able to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Position: (1) LANDSCAPING SUPERVISOR
Qualifications: Able to directly supervise and coordinate activities and work schedule of employees engaged in landscaping and grounds keeping activities. Must have 3 years previous work experience, preferably in a hotel. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent.

Position: (1) PAINTER
Qualifications: 2 years work experience as a painter. Must have an eye for detail and good judgment. Must be able to carry and lift up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Able to work flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

Position: (2) PLUMBER
Qualifications: Minimum of 2 years of plumbing experience preferably in a hotel or similar large building or complex with central plant. Knowledge of the tools, equipment and materials common to the plumbing trade is required. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather.

Position: (2) Steward Supervisor
Qualifications: Requirements: 3 years experience in stewarding; 1 year stewarding supervisor experience. Must be able to work long hours and handle pressure. Must have strong knowledge of sanitation procedure and health codes and implementation.

Position: (1) GENERAL ACCOUNTANT
Qualifications: College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, major in accounting preferred. 4 years progressive work experience as an accountant. Must be computer literate and proficient in accounting software application particularly SAP, R3 and FICO. Must have strong organizational skills and team player. Must be able to work under pressure and flexible to work a schedule including weekends and holidays when required.

Position: (1) ACCOUNTING ANALYST- Accounts Payable/Disbursements
Qualifications: College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, major in accounting is preferred. 3 years progressive accounts payable and general accounting experience. Strong knowledge of relevant computer software application particularly SAP, R3 and FICO. Proficient in data entry and management. Must have strong problem and communication skills. Attention to detail and accuracy is essential. Must be able to work under pressure. Able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays when required.

Position: (2) ACCOUNTING ANALYST – Accounts Receivable
Qualifications: College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, major in accounting preferred. 3 years progressive experience in accounts receivable operations. Must have strong knowledge of relevant computer software application particularly SAP, R3 and FICO. Proficient in data entry and management. Must have strong problem and communication skills. Attention to detail and accuracy is essential. Must be able to work under pressure. Able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays when required.

Position: (1) COST ACCOUNTANT
Qualifications: Generally responsible for ensuring that food and beverage costs are within hotel standards. Renders regular reporting of food and beverage costs to management. Calculates food cost of regular menu items and assists banquet department in costing special banquet menus. Witness/participates in the periodic physical inventory counts and reports to immediate supervisor for any major discrepancies. Bachelor's Degree in accounting, business or finance is preferred. Minimum of 3 years work experience as cost accountant preferably in a hotel. Proficient in computer software application particularly SAP, R3 and FICO. Able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holiday when required.

Position: (1) PURCHASING SUPERVISOR
Qualifications: College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, major in accounting preferred. Minimum of 3 years progressive work experience as a purchasing supervisor preferably in a hotel or a fast-paced environment. Ability to make judgments regarding alternative means of procuring materials/goods or services based on cost and serviceability. Ability to pay close attention to detail with a high degree of accuracy. Ability to adapt to changes in work environment, work assignments, and/or changes in priorities. Proficient in Microsoft Office applications and other software particularly SAP, R3 and FICO. Experienced with inventories to include, but not limited to, Food and Beverage, Dry goods, and Housekeeping Cleaning & Guest Supplies is a requirement. Willing to work flexible schedule on occasion including weekends.

Applications can be obtained at the Security Office at the Hotel's South Wing.
To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than July 29, 2014.
Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Staff sues Mayor's Office for injuries from 2012 fall

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An employee of the Saipan Mayor's Office has filed a lawsuit over the severe injuries he suffered when the bucket truck's arm he was on suddenly broke as he was cutting off branches of trees, plunging him several feet to a rooftop of a building in 2012.

Lawrence M. Fleming, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, is suing the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, the CNMI government, and the administrator of the estate of former Saipan mayor Donald G. Flores, for negligence and worker's compensation.

In a lawsuit filed yesterday, Fleming asked the Superior Court to hold the defendants liable to pay him $350,000 in damages for pain, suffering, and emotional distress. He also demanded payment for court costs and attorney's fees.

Fleming's work as an employee of the Mayor's Office included cutting and trimming of trees along roadsides and elsewhere on Saipan.

Horey stated in the complaint that on July 19, 2012, Fleming was on a bucket truck and was cutting branches of trees above the roof of a government house on Capital Hill when the mechanical arm suddenly collapsed and the bucket, with Fleming in it, fell downward more than 20 feet and crashed on the concrete roof of the house.

The lawyer said that Fleming sustained a burst compression fracture of his lumbar vertebra that required surgery and that he will likely to require further medical treatment in the future.

On April 16, 2014, Horey said, Fleming presented a claim for his damages to the Attorney General, but the AG made no disposition of the claim within 90 days after it was presented, and is therefore deemed to have denied the claim.

Horey said the Mayor's Office breached its duties to Fleming by failing to adequately maintain the truck and failing to give him or other users adequate instructions in its proper use.

The lawyer said the Saipan Mayor's Office did not secure payment of worker's compensation benefits for Fleming as required by the Commonwealth Worker's Compensation law.

Nominations sought for MINA's Green Awards

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance is seeking nominations for its "Green Awards," which will be presented at the organization's annual Green Gala on Sept. 19, 2014. The Green Awards recognize individuals, companies, and schools that promote environmental stewardship and are committed to the preservation of the Commonwealth's precious natural resources.

The Green Awards include:

■ The Environmental Champion Award, given to an individual who has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the environment and preservation of our natural resources.

■ The Environmental Heroes Award, given to a school, public or private, whose dedication to the environment is echoed through its students and all the work that they do in protecting our natural resources.

■ The Green Business of the Year, given to a business that is committed to conservation and has incorporated the green business culture through its entire organization.

To submit nominations, send the following information to brookenevitt.mina@gmail.com: 1) your name and contact information; 2) your nominee and the category you are nominating in; and 3) At least one-page narrative explaining why your nominee should receive a Green Award. The deadline for submitting nomination is Aug. 8, 2014.

For more information, contact Brooke Nevitt or Kodep Ogumoro-Uludong at 233-7333 or email brookenevitt.mina@gmail.com. ***(MINA)***

2 reappointed to HCPL board; one new member appointed

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has reappointed two members and appointed one new member to the Health Care Professions Licensing Board.

In a letter to Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), Inos said he would be reappointing both Dr. Allan S. Markoff and Ted Parker to the board and appointing Dr. Tiffany Lynn Willis to the same board.

The appointments require the consent of the Senate.

Inos said that he was confident with his appointees and that he expects a "favorable action" from the Senate.

Inos told the appointees that he appointed them because they are qualified and have devoted their time and efforts to represent the interest of the CNMI.

"As an appointee of the governor, you are immediately required to file a statement of financial interest with the [Office of the] Public Auditor," Inos told the appointees.

Willis will replace Dr. Ahmad Al-alou on the board. Al-alou, who had been serving on the board for eight years now, will soon end his latest term.

Public Law 15-505 states that Health Care Professions Licensing Board members are allowed to serve for four years and may serve for another four years if reappointed.

The HCPL board is composed of five members appointed by the governor.

If confirmed, Markoff, Parker, and Willis will serve four-year terms that will expire on Aug. 28, 2018. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

Admin settles attorney's fees in Fund class action

Faced with a potential liability of nearly $37.2 million in attorney's fees in the Retirement Fund class action settlement case (*Betty Johnson v. Inos*), the Inos administration has reached settlements with the class counsel for a fifth of their total fee request, according to a statement yesterday from the Office of the Governor.

Negotiations between the parties have been ongoing since October 2013 and were mediated by the Judge Robert J. Faris. In January, the administration reached settlements of $185,000 and $800,000 with Stephen C. Woodruff and Bruce Jorgensen, respectively. Most recently, on July 17, 2014, the administration finalized a settlement agreement providing for payment of $6.5 million (to be paid over three years) with the Bronster Hoshibata firm.

"The three-year payment term is a huge benefit for the Commonwealth as it gives us time to incorporate the payments into our budget and generate more revenue," said Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

Deputy Attorney General Gilbert Birnbrich explained, "If the district court issued an order to pay attorney's fees, the lump sum amount would have been due at the time ordered and the amount could have been two, three, or even five times the amount negotiated in the fee settlements. We presented strong arguments to the district court for a fee award at the lower end, but there was a high possibility that the court would have awarded fees that exceeded settlement amounts. In one of its prior class action settlement cases, the court awarded class counsel fees with a multiplier of 8."

The Jorgensen and Bronster settlements are still subject to approval by the district court and will not be final until such approval.

"The administration would have, of course, much preferred to see these fee monies go to projects and programs in our community, but the Commonwealth had an obligation to pay attorney's fees under the settlement agreement," said a part of the statement.

"It is likely that the court would have awarded fees that exceeded the amounts we reached in settlement," said Inos. "The fee settlements have saved the Commonwealth from exposure to millions of dollars and these savings can be used for matters that directly benefit our community, including the restoration of the 25 percent pension reduction."

The administration was also involved in settlement negotiations with Timothy R. Lord, an attorney who was not included as class counsel under the terms of the settlement agreement, but who represented the plaintiff earlier in the case. Lord insists that he is entitled to almost $6 million in fees; the government does not believe that he earned this fee and has not reached a settlement with him. ***(Office of the Governor)***

SCC, MVA, HANMI to hold joint meeting with Delta Air Lines

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority, Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas Islands, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be holding a joint board meeting tomorrow, July 23, at the Saipan World Resort, starting at 11:30am.

The joint meeting will feature guest speaker Jeff Bernier, Delta Air Lines' managing director, who will discuss operational updates, promotions in Japan, and other matters.

Bernier is the managing director for Asia Pacific for Delta and has overall commercial responsibility for all portions of Delta's P&L in the Asia Pacific region outside of Japan.

Bernier covers China, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Guam and Saipan, Palau, and Australia as well as other general sales agent territories in Asia.

He became Delta's managing director in May 2012.

Bernier joined Northwest Airlines in 1994 as a business analyst with Information Services at the corporate headquarters in Eagan, Minnesota. He moved to Asia in 1996 as a senior analyst in revenue management - Pacific Division.

Bernier has served in positions of increasing responsibility, including manager for revenue management in Japan, director for Eastern Japan Sales, and director for Japan Sales and Trade Relations. He was promoted to managing director for Japan in June 2007 and to the position of managing director for the Pacific Sales and Affairs for Delta in November 2009.

Bernier serves as vice president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan and a board member for Tokyo English Life Line, a non-profit community service organization.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Saint Olaf College in Minnesota and resides in Tokyo with his family.

KAGMAN HIGH NOTICES

Kagman High student registration Aug. 8 deadline

All new and returning students to Kagman High School should register by Aug. 8 for preferred scheduling! All out of zone students coming from Saipan Southern High School and Marianas High School, please register by Aug. 8 for preferential scheduling! All out of zone student files will be sent to the zoned school after Aug. 8.

Any students who are requesting for out of zone waivers must write a letter to the Commissioner of Education stating the compelling reason to grant the waiver. All letters that are received after August 8 will miss the student file transfer deadlines.

KHS parent, student orientation

Dear parents of Kagman High: High School orientation is an important day for you and your child. On this day you will be given information about the school's programs and services. You will get an update on our achievement and goal attainment. We will announce important dates and most importantly we will be handing out student schedules. After the short orientation meeting in the cafeteria, parents and students are welcome to tour the campus and meet teachers before the opening of school.

- Seniors: Aug. 26, 2:30pm
- Juniors: Aug. 27, 2:30pm
- Sophomores: Aug. 28, 2:30pm
- Freshmen: Aug. 29, 2:39pm

If you have more than one child attending KHS, you only need attend one orientation. But if you come for two sessions you get two raffle tickets!

All parents who attend any KHS event earn parent participation raffle tickets for the end of the year raffle. These tickets cannot be bought; they can only be earned. How you earn them is by showing up and being part of the Ayuyu family through PTSA meetings, progress reports, orientation, family fun night and more.

Prizes for the end of the year raffle last school year were kitchen gadgets, gift certificates, garden tools, electronics such as Kindle Fire HDs and a flat screen TV! The more events you attend, the more tickets you earn. The more tickets you earn, the higher your chances are to win. Take a chance! Come to KHS events! ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated Happy Birthday to our Granddaughter Julia Clarisse Bella. May all your dreams today and tomorrow come true. Happy birthday, little princess! Love, Grandma Myrna and Grandpa Celso

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant positions

Maintenance Coordinator (1)
Qualifications: Requires three (3) years of satisfactory performance as a Maintenance Coordinator; or any combination of related education and experience in the assigned area; or up to four (4) years of college courses in civil engineering, construction management or related field. Must have the ability to read, write, analyze & interpret orally & written effectively; ability to interpret and administer contracts for construction, and/or operational services.

Maintenance Manager (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent. Minimum of six (6) years experience in hotel maintenance plus 2 years in supervisory level. Able to supervise, manage and coordinate the activities of mechanics, installers and repairers. Good judgment, decision making skills, and time management skills. Prefer some technical courses. Must know how to read floor plan and electrical diagram. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Must be able to work flexible schedule including holidays, weekends and nights.

Electrician (2)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum of five (5) years work experience required. Provide access for future maintenance and avoid unreliable wiring, consistent with verification and electrical codes, and other related duties as assigned. Capable of reading schematic diagram, and electrical symbols, knowledgeable on industrial electricity, circuit breakers, switches and controls. Must to work in a flexible way that allows for changes in assignments and priorities depending upon identified needs of the department. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

International Cook (5)
Qualifications: High school diploma; graduate from independent and vocational cooking schools, professional culinary institutes or a college degree in appropriate field or equivalent. At least three (3) years experience in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort. Must be able to prepare, season, and cook a wide range of international dishes such as soups, meats, vegetables, salads, entrees, and desserts in the Resort. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Baker (2)
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Some previous work-related skill, knowledge or experience preferably in a hotel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Demi Chef (2)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent, or postsecondary instruction from vocational schools. Minimum of four (4) years work experience as a Demi-Chef preferably in hotel. Comprehensive knowledge of kitchen hygiene practices and occupational health and safety standards is essential. Supervise and coordinates activities of kitchen operation and personnel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

A/C Refrigeration Mechanic/Technician (1)
Qualifications: Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration or and associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or two (2) to four (4) years of experience. Able to install and repair industrial and commercial refrigeration systems. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

General Maintenance Worker/Repairer (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of two (2) years work experience as a Handyman preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid driver's license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Housekeeper (5)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum 6 months work experience preferably in a hotel. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Tailor/Dressmaker (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of Three (3) years work experience as a dressmaker preferably in a hotel. Must be able to think creatively. Is able to design, make draperies, repair or fit garments. Must have an interest in fashion, color and style. Must have ability to work quickly, accurately and independently in a fast-paced environment. Able to work a variable schedule on occasion including weekends.

Housekeeping Supervisor (6)
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. A few months to one year of supervisory/managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Must directly supervise and coordinate work activities of cleaning personnel in the hotel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Night Auditor (1)
Qualifications: College Diploma or Equivalent certificate, in a hotel or resort. Must have at least two (2) years experience in hotel internal auditing. Must be willing to work flexible night duty/graveyard schedule, weekends, holidays and extended work hours. Understanding of business processes and work flow design. Strong financial analytical background and must be knowledgeable on Microsoft office applications and other software are essential. Good communication and interpersonal skills are necessary. Also responsible in handling of company general funds. Ability to pay close attention to detail with a high degree of accuracy, adapt to changes in work environment, work as assignments and/or changes in priorities.

Guest Relations Supervisor (3)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree in hospitality or hotel management. One to four years or supervisory/managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Must be able to supervise and coordinate the activities of guest relations workers to make sure that guests on vacation or business travel have a pleasant experience, while also ensuring the establishment is run efficiently and profitably. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Wait Staff (19)
Qualifications: High school diploma/GED preferred. At least 6 months serving experience required or 6 months current hosting experience. Restaurant and Beverages experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Guest Services Agent (4)
Qualifications: Must have minimum of 2 years work experience in providing quality customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for service and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Must be able to handle customer complaints with efficiency. High School diploma or GED certificate. Must be able to work variable schedule including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have multitasking skills, be detailed-oriented, and be able to solve problems in order to effectively deal with internal and external customers.

Applications may be obtained and submitted to our Security Office located on the South Wing of Fiesta Resort & Spa.
Dead-line for submission of applications is July 28, 2014 to be considered.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer

U.S. AIR FORCE/STAFF SGT. MELISSA B. WHITE

A portion of the volunteers hold up the number of Mariana fruit bats they saw on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on July 3. More than 100 volunteers from the base and local community gathered for the first large-scale monitoring of the threatened species to help determine the population.

Save the fruit bats!

»First large-scale survey at Andersen sets baseline for threatened species

By MELISSA WHITE
36TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ANDERSEN AIR BASE, Guam—More than 100 volunteers gathered here on July 3 for the first large-scale monitoring of the threatened Mariana fruit bat.

The bats, which dwell on Guam and throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, have fluctuated between threatened and endangered for the past several decades. While researchers are certain the Mariana fruit bat population has been in a steady decline since the beginning of observations, there was no accurate population count backed with strong scientific procedures and evidence until now.

"We have covered 100 times the survey size [with this amount of people] in one day compared to the surveys that have been done every month [by a single person] for the past 10 years," said Tammy Mildenstein, Andersen AFB Fanihi Count Program principal investigator. "For Guam, or anywhere, bat surveys wouldn't really be successful unless you do it in large groups at the same time."

The Mariana fruit bat is commonly referred to by the Chamorro name of fanihi.

Mildenstein said this was the first time a bat survey has ever been done in this manner, partly due to the fact most bat species roost in colonies, making it easier to track them because they live together in one spot. Monitoring the Mariana fruit bat requires a different strategy. They used to be recorded on the base as a colony that lived together at Pati Point Preserve on the base. However, the decline throughout the years has minimized and dispersed the bats in Guam, which makes them more difficult to track since they fly solo and live in different areas. This species has become so rare and threatened as a result of poaching and illegal consumption, human disturbance, habitat loss, and the invasive brown tree snakes.

U.S. AIR FORCE/STAFF SGT. MELISSA B. WHITE

Josefa Muñoz, University of Guam biology major, Daniel McKay, UOG assistant professor, and Cacilie Craft, community volunteer, monitor Mariana fruit bats flying around the Tarague Basin on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on July 3.

In order to find the sparsely spread bats, the base sought out volunteers from within the gates, but also throughout the local community and the University of Guam. With an original expectation of 35-40 volunteers, the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight received more than 100 responses from across the island to support Andersen's conservation effort.

A Mariana fruit bat named Babydoll hangs from a tree at the Guam National Wildlife Refuge on Ritidian Point, Guam, May 20, 2013.

U.S. AIR FORCE/STAFF SGT. MELISSA B. WHITE

"Everyone said we wouldn't get enough volunteers, but the support we got shows people care about the future of the fanihi," Mildenstein said. "I think it's great that our pilot project is something never done before and that it brought these different institutions together that normally don't have the opportunity to work together."

The volunteers were assigned to 51 locations on the base and at Ritidian Point during the early morning hours in hopes to sight the mammals as they returned to their roosting spots for the daytime. All 51 locations were areas bat sightings have been positively recorded in the past.

Ruben Guieb, 36th CES Environmental Flight Natural and Cultural Resources Conservation Program chief, said he was pleased to hear of positive bat sightings on base that morning, but the official results of the survey will be released in August and that the plan is to repeat the survey in a similar manner annually.

While the survey only included Andersen property, Guieb said there's a good argument that it would be the most probable place for the bats to live on the island, considering the habitat management units being built on base to protect the threatened species from invasive creatures along with healthy limestone forests. The base is also the location on Guam in closest proximity to Rota, an island nearly 40 miles to the northeast, where fishermen on boats between the two locations have witnessed bats making direct flight between the islands.

"The bat has cultural value to the people of Guam," said Guieb. "And now, with this baseline survey using strong, quantitative science, we can track the trends of population to see if our programs are helping with the recovery of the species and minimize the impacts of the base missions on the environment."

June arrivals grow 6 pct.

June 2014 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands grew 6 percent compared to June 2013. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota registered 35,638 visitors in June 2014, compared to 33,539 visitors received in June 2013.

Arrivals from China soared by 50 percent to 14,962 visitors, making China the largest source market for the CNMI in June. With two additional charters from Beijing as well as new charter flights from Hong Kong, the number of Chinese visitors to the CNMI is projected to continue to rise steeply during the summer season. To capitalize on this rapid growth out of the China market and particularly to boost promotions in the South China and Hong Kong markets, the MVA established a new Guangzhou office on July 1 to work with key media, travel trade, airline, and online partners throughout the South China market and ensure the continued rapid growth in arrivals out of South China.

Arrivals from Russia grew by 11 percent to 1,363 visitors in June. Growth in arrivals from Russia in the coming months, however, is projected to slow as Russia's economy suffers from the impact of the Ukraine crisis and as outbound travel by Russians to all destinations worldwide slows dramatically. To counter this trend, the MVA is launching major summer co-op campaigns with Aviacharter and Asiana Airlines to support the current airlift to the NMI from Russia during the summer season.

Arrivals from Japan fell 13 percent to 7,601 visitors in June. This was driven primarily by a 20-percent decline in air seat supply from Narita, which impacted the Japanese market, as Delta Air Lines temporarily suspended two night-flights per week from Narita. Japan continues to suffer from an airlift crisis and urgently needs the entry of a low-cost carrier into the market as seen in the past 12 months in both the Korea and China markets.

Arrivals from Korea dropped 17 percent in June to 9,465 visitors. Korea's tourism industry has been struggling in the wake of the April 16 *Sewol* ferry disaster as Koreans refrain from travel or engaging in leisure activities. In an attempt to revive the sagging tourism sector to all destinations worldwide, the Korean government has launched a nationwide tourism promotion campaign to encourage travel under the current sense of national mourning. Given weak outbound travel, Asiana temporarily suspended Busan flights but will resume Busan-Saipan service from July 23 every Wednesday and Saturday. With Korea's gradual recovery from the *Sewol* ferry disaster, it is expected that arrivals from Korea to the NMI will begin growing once again from July. In the meantime, Jeju Air has started to sell 'Early Bird' tickets through its official website for its new daily non-stop service from Seoul to Saipan launching October 1. ***(MVA)***

TAN HOLDINGS' DONATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, left, presents a $5,000 donation to Ben Babauta, center, and Mark Moss, right, organizers of the 19th Annual Tournament of Champions Golf Tournament. The Tournament of Champions, which will be played at the LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort's East & West Courses on Aug. 2 and 3, will feature hundreds of thousands of dollars in prizes. For more information or to sign up to play, visit www.TOCsaipan.com.

Hotel occupancy at 80 pct. in June

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 79.55 percent occupancy among 11 member hotels for June 2014, a 2-percent increase compared to June 2013.

A total of 54,962 of 69,090 available nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates were $111.13 during the month, compared to $102.67 last June.

"The continuing increase in hotel occupancy is due in part to the efforts of hotels and travel agents promoting the Northern Marianas in close collaboration with the Marianas Visitors Authority in China, Korea, Japan, and Russia," said HANMI chair Nick Nishikawa. "The MVA's promotions are largely made possible through the hotel occupancy tax paid by hotels; this public-private partnership benefits the entire Commonwealth."

So far this calendar year, hotel occupancy is at an average 83.76 percent, 2 percent lower than last year.

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the Northern Mariana Islands. ***(HANMI)***

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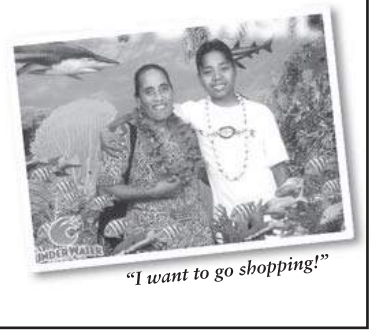
"I want to go shopping!"

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Management Accountant (2)
College degree with accounting or financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in analyzing, interpreting and providing sound financial information. Must be adept in monthly financial statement preparation and consolidation, cash flow forecasting, budgeting, and providing financial projections. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self-management skills. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft Excel, Power Point and Project. CPA not required.

Housekeeper (6)
Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning of words and rules of composition. Must have at least 3 years working experience. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Important qualities: detailed oriented. Must pay close attention to detail. Interpersonal skills. Must get along well with people they provide services for and must be polite and friendly. Physical stamina. Must be able to spend many hours on their feet scrubbing, bending, stooping, and stretching and must be able to lift or move up to 50 pounds. Must be able to work flexible hours and days.

Accountant (3)
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Business Development Manager
Graduate of a 4-year degree course with an Accounting or Financial Management major and at least 5 years of progressive financial and business management experience. Minimum of 3 years general management experience preferably in a financing or banking institution. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software and Microsoft software. Should possess a solid track record of accomplishing business objectives.

Accounting Manager
College degree with financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software.

Accounting Supervisor
A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a focus in accounting and/or finance. 2-3 years of progressive responsibility supervising a minimum of 3 associates. CPA/CPA candidate a plus. Audit experience also preferred. Must have knowledge with the use of SAP R3 FICO System and SAP Fixed Asset Module. Microsoft Office proficiency with advanced knowledge of Excel is a must.

Administrative Assistant (5)
Associate's Degree with 2 years experience of administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as word processing, managing files and records. Must be proficient in typing and good at written and oral communication. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service and interpersonal skills at work. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights. Proficient in MS Office including Word, Excel and Outlook.

Messenger (2)
High school graduate. Must be able to keep track of multiple documents and itemize. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Good oral and written communication skills and good driving skills are required. Must provide and maintain own vehicle for work and have a valid driver's license. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Administrative Assistant for Sports Facilities
High school diploma or GED Certificate plus experience working in sports organization or sports facilities. Must be computer literate: Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook. Applicant must have good written and oral communication skills. Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic
Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

HR & Administrative Assistant
Associate's Degree. Must have knowledge of principles and procedures for personnel recruitment, selection, benefits and personnel information systems. Ability to work in confidential related matters, self-directed and be able to multi-task in a fast paced environment. With a minimum of 2 years work experience in an administrative role and accounting experience. Proficient in MS Office including Word, Excel and Outlook.

Vice President
Graduate of a 4-year degree course with a minimum of 8 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in property management, tourism and/or hotel management. Knowledge of lease negotiations plus financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Electrician
High school diploma or GED certificate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, maintaining, and/or repairing electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Must have knowledge of electrical codes, intercom and electrical control systems. Must be able to work flexible hours.

General Maintenance Worker (10)
High school diploma or equivalent with at least 3 years experience especially in equipment and appliance repair. Must have some basic knowledge and troubleshooting experience in plumbing and electrical systems, masonry, carpentry, and other cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects. Must be willing to work flexible hours.

Network Administration Manager
Associate's degree in any computer science, information engineering or other computer technology related areas. Must have at least 5 years of sound experience in local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, planning, designing, implementation, and user support. Must have knowledge in MS Exchange Email Server.

Engineering Manager
Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with at least 5 years of progressive management experience. Ability to successfully develop, implement and manage projects including the ability to provide effective leadership is a must. Adeptness in cost estimation and knowledge of quality control and federal regulations in environmental and occupational safety hazards is required. The duties of this job require constant outside travel and exposure to outside weather conditions. Must be able to provide his/her own transportation and must have a valid driver's license.

Sales Officer
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Must be able to prepare management and sales reports and is proficient in various MS office software operations. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Legal Secretary (2)
Associates degree and at least 2 years work related experience in a legal office. Proficient in case and document management software, Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Power Point and Outlook. Familiar in preparation and filing of pleadings and legal documents.

Corporate Paralegal Officer
Bachelor's degree in paralegal studies or in any related field. Minimum of 3 years experience providing sound legal research, reliable litigation support and preparation of legal documents, pleadings and contracts. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Familiarity with Lexis - Nexis and Pacer - ECF is required.

IT Manager
College degree with a major in computer science, computer technology or information engineering or other related areas is required. At least 5 years of progressive management experience and 8 years of sound and all-around IT technical experience is required. Must have well-developed written/oral and management skills and with a strong background in all IT hardware, software and communication business requirements.

Computer Technician
Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. Must have at least 3 years of sound experience in electronics and communication systems with emphasis on the repair of computer equipment and installation of telephone cables/systems. Must be knowledgeable in different software applications and in hardware troubleshooting. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Graphic Designer
Associate's degree in Fine Arts, Graphic Design or other related areas. Minimum of 3 years work experience in creating graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, depending on demand.

Programmer Analyst (2)
Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming and at least 3 years of work-related experience in a professional Microsoft Windows environment. Strong practical knowledge in relational databases management particularly in midrange RDMS environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, July 31, 2014.

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Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

No quick or easy solutions to border crisis

There have been some recent stirrings of reasonableness in Washington over the humanitarian crisis at the Mexican border, stirrings that should be supported and nurtured like, well, a child. But let's not fool ourselves: The proposals being bandied about address current political and bureaucratic problems, but they will do little to resolve the instability and violence propelling tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors out of Central America.

Street gangs, drug cartels, ineffectual local government and corruption have destabilized neighborhoods and cities in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. That has prompted an exodus of children headed (mostly) for the United States. Under the 2008 William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, which was designed to combat sexual trafficking and labor exploitation of children, border agents must within 72 hours send unaccompanied minors (from all but Mexico and Canada) to the Department of Health and Human Services for care while immigration courts determine whether they have sufficient cause to remain in the country.

That system is swamped. Kids are being released to the custody of relatives or social agencies pending court hearings, leading to rumors that they can get permisos—permits—to stay. The Obama administration wants Congress to give it the leeway to send the minors back much more quickly, a proposal opposed by immigrant rights advocates.

Now, Sen. John Cornyn, a Texas Republican, and Rep. Henry Cuellar, a Texas Democrat, have introduced what they're calling the HUMANE Act. The bill would add 40 immigration judges, as the Obama administration has requested, which would come on top of the 35 immigration judges that the White House's 2015 budget proposes to add. The bill also would require a hearing for each unaccompanied minor within seven days, followed by a ruling within the next three days, on whether he or she can make a prima facie case to stay under the immigration law's complicated criteria. Those who lose their bids would be immediately repatriated; those deserving a full hearing would be released to the custody of a sponsor while the process unfolds.

The bill, as it has been described, deserves consideration. But those who work with the minors harbor no illusions—and neither should we—that returning these children more quickly to violent communities will stop them all from trying again to reach the U.S. border. More likely, it will drive some of them further underground, and they will come north along riskier routes. In many cases, they are running from mortal danger, and measured against that fear, a dangerous trip for the chance at a future is a rational choice.

That this emergency is rooted in criminal violence, rather than war or political or religious terrorism, does not make it any less a humanitarian crisis. And the solution will not be found in an immigration courtroom, or along the banks of the Rio Grande.

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Before we take in thousands of Central American kids, what about poor kids in our own country?
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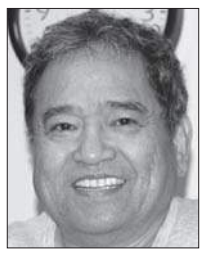
Coming home

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



The Zhang Yimou-Gongli tandem that combined talents as director and actress in films like *Red Sorghum* and *Raise the Red Lantern,* joined forces again in a film titled *Coming Home.* The movie is set during China's Cultural Revolution, an era in Chinese history that still invites polarity in the political divide.

The story of *Coming Home* is adapted from a novel, *The Criminal Lu Yanshi.* Lu Yanshi was a professor sent to a labor camp, escaped, and tried to rendezvous with his wife. Their daughter was a budding dancer who cannot play the leading ballerina role due to her father's "outlaw" status, so she betrays the details of her parents' plan, leading to her father's capture and she getting the dancing role.

Released after the Cultural Revolution, the father finds the daughter as a mere textile factory worker, and the wife developed amnesia as a consequence of the sexual harassment she suffered from an officer's misuse and abuse of power. Unhappily, the wife mistakes and identifies her returned husband as the officer. The husband continues to write his wife to forgive their daughter's betrayal and to expect her husband's return. The movie ends with the wife waiting outside the train station while the husband faithfully stands by her side as the taxi driver.

I am not suggesting that my coming home to *Dong Bei* is tragic. However, I must say that it is difficult to remove certain bitter aftertastes of my U.S.-Canada experience of the last 50 years. A recollection of two is enough.

My primal wife and I, while still courting in Chicago in '67, were walking by Madison Ave. on her way to the train that will take her to a suburban home when a wino grabbed me by the cuff, pulled me against a wall, and asked: "What are you doing with a white girl, boy?" The law has change much; the sentiment has not!

Not too long ago, a colleague in Edmonton came to Calgary for a job interview. The appointment was made on her married Caucasian name, but when the interviewer saw her, he declared that his secretary made a double appointment and he was sorry he could not see her. He abruptly left his office while she was left holding her application form, stunned by what she felt was a blatant racial prejudice in the encounter. Asians staff menial jobs while the white collars stay white!

The prejudice against Confucian teachers was clear during the Cultural Revolution, for like the *illuminati* of Bavaria and the *illustrado* of España, the learned Confucian master tended to be aloof and powerful in ze control of the learned elite. They held the coveted gates of party leadership. Mao in the Cultural Revolution wanted to return to the raw energy of workers and farmhands rather than the disciplined rationality of the motivated petite bourgeoisie and confident national capitalists among the four groups identified in China's revolution. A decisive move placed CPC intellectuals closer to the proletarian People's Liberation Army.

I saw as a university teacher how this structural haughtiness of teachers and school administrators in China was displayed in our school dining room where the first three floors were for students, tiered according to the price of servings with the first floor being the cheapest; and then the fourth floor exclusively for teachers and administrators with the price of lunch heavily subsidized by the school, and the floor equipped with an elevator exclusively for their use.

I come home to China without much illusion. I am no Sinophile but I affirm without being patronizing the clear trends that I live with. Here are some:

1. As the percentage of high school graduates attending college increases (10 years ago, it was at 25 percent; in 2010, 62 percent), the China market is saturated with degreed personal that cannot find the desired white-collar jobs. Parents are dismayed that their child can only get factory-line work, while children who spent a fortune for their education stay as far away as possible so they can be in denial, maintain a proper "face" for themselves and their family, while doing piddly labor elsewhere.

2. A majority in China cuddles Western consumerism and the domestic market is measured by expenditure on non-essential consumer products, on youth cosmetics and well-publicized but overpriced pharmaceuticals for weight loss.

3. Many Chinese see the grass as always greener on the other side, so they deeply and extensively borrow funds for the chance to permanently live in another country, a major source of heartaches for those who fall prey to unscrupulous recruiters on false promises. (There were plenty of these in the Saipan textile industry.)

4. Ostentatious lifestyle maintains social standing. Prodigious spending is not unheard of in the Chinatowns around the world, and many Chinese leaving the country strive to join their tribe.

My challenge remains to be human in *globalis.* A new *Zhongguoren* (Chinese) can choose to be culturally centered, balanced, and ever harmonious in a new planet strained by humanity's folly to self-destruct in the trappings of fame and fortune that overcomes ze sense of selfhood.

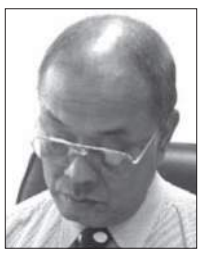
China in a new earth is where I make home.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Minañgau Pulan

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Gi lemlem tautau umafagcha` yan minañgau gualafon, pas yan katma todu i oriya `nai adumididi` sige hu esgaihon chat-hinassoghu siha guatu gi fina` kanat para bai na` fan suha.

Hu konsidera dos asuntu: 1). Ayu siha na famaguon i krumusa sanlichan na patte giya America dispues de man-mamokat kanaha` dos mit miyas. 2). Iya Iraq `nai sige mas te`ug i geran tautau niha mismu gi entalu` Shiites, Sunnis yan otro tropan Muslim siha.

Giya Africa, guaha siha nasion lokue` sige tautau niha man-malagu miyon pot miyon pot no u fan mapunu`. Konsidera lugat niha añglu` yan sumen figan na maipe gi halom disettu (desert). Ni hanom pat neñkanu` `nai ha tutuhon man-malagu.

Hita guine man-trañkilu hit gi halom katma na O`Perlas iya Pasifiku, punta pot punta.

Konsidera `an un` pechiñg patgonmu ya sige hau malagu gi halom disettu pot sustu. Figan i semnag ya taya` kampu dumeskansa pot no un` ginacha` ni man-pegnu`. Añglu` yan figan i edda kada pot gadas gi menamu. Ni un` hagun cha`guan maseha para un` chochup hale`ña kumu temporariu na alimientu. Dispues, i lugat ni un` falalague kau un` ma-aksepta?

Ti komprendiyon este na modun minasapet. Mauleg tafan manna`e mit grasias ni bendisionta pas yan trañkilida gi tanu` prefektu pasifiku!

Napun linala`ta

`Nai hafagcha`e hit te`ug na chinatsaga, umensinahyau hinassota un` ratu. Sige ta ebalua para ta komprende i masusesede. Siempre u fattu gi ayu na eskalera i ta aksepta na disposision ginen hilu`. Ni unu siña tumulaika ayu na disposision.

Pot man-tautau hit mina` kontodu oran deskanso-ta mampos inkabukau. Kumikilulog hinassota gi mismu ridondun. Kontodu katen pajaru gi chagu` `sino ginapot hagun troñkun niyog ni mañglu mafattu kulan eku gi talañga-ta.

Gi halom este na rimulinu solu konsueluta i para ta añgoghu i taihinekog na disposision Nanalibreta. Ni unu u soplu gi haf` esta ha pega guine kumu areglu. Gi katkuet manera i pañgpañg napu ti u matulaika sa` todu u fan sinatpe parehu. Finaposta kulan kinahulu` atdau `an oga`an ni tumunog yan machom dispues gi lemlem tautau.

Konsuelon Patgon

`Nai ha huñgog i hagahu na dos che`luhu manasasaga gi hospitat, hana` hanague-yu` un` kanta ni ilelegña, "Bai gaige guine pot hagu". Ala kuenta guiya para u gaige hihot maseha esta silensiu i uttimu sotfa ya todu man-hanau.

Era pa`gu mafattu-yu` ginen hospitat hu bisita un` che`luhu ni gaige gi ICU. Estaba lokue` i bisnietu-hu as Andrew (ochu años idatña) gi fihonhu. `Nai guaha chansa humihot-yu` ya hu kuentuse che`lu-hu kumu guahu i amku`. Achacha gigugo` finohu yan lagohu`.

Ha li`eyu` i patgon. Ha faisen si tataña para u tohge gi fihonhu. Dispues `nai sigeyu` huyuñg ha gu`ot kanaihu, ha yemi` ya ilegña, "Nametgot hau Uncle John". Esta i kareran para i gima` `nai hu repara hafa ayu na patgon fino`ña giya guahu. Ayu-yu` i pinatgoña lau kulan makreansa motmut na sensian yine`ase`. Tomtum yan ma`lag intellihenteña na patgon!

Liñguahita

I liñguahen Chamorro guaha mafanana`an "dialect" `sino modun ekspressiu entalu` Guam, Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Taya` linachiña sa` ayu modun konbetsasion niha gi kada lugat.

Pot ihemplo: Giya Saipan ilelegña "mañisiha", Luta, "mansisiha". Parehu masasañgan ayu mina` acha dinanche i palabra segun haf` fafayen niha.

Lamegai lokue` hiniñgoghu man-lache na finu` Chamorro tat kumu "mamarientes". I propiu, "man-parientes". Lau chage fan i sigiente na finu` Chamorro ni matranslada ginen finu` Eñglis ni dos sendaluta `nai man-estaba Halimaña.

"Dear Mom", translation: Binadu Nañg.

Un` dia sige hu dibina hafa palabras na`an tiempu siha taiguihe finu` Eñglis: Spring, summer, fall yan winter. Bai` chage hinasoghu: spring, fanonagua—primet Agua De Abrit; summer, fanonagan; fall, fanonmunu`—taimanu `an mamunu` i troñku; winter, fanonneñgheñg.

Diberas popble i liñguahita gi palabran mafanana`an gi finu` Eñglis "verbs". Debi un` atan haf` sustansian i palabra gi finu` Eñglis para un` kesoda` haf` mas hihot gi finu` Chamorro. Pot para tafañaleg, haf` taimanu un` pula` "onse i guaka" pat "pulan i neni?"

Hu suspepecha na buente kabales ha` liñguahen Chamorro gi bandan "verbs" lau kasse todu maliñgu dispues de kuatru na nasion kumepunu` liñguahita. Dispensayu` lau gi finu` i kuentos, dimoñu! Aike para in` finas hila` nanan mame. Kau malefa si nanan miyu nu hamyu gi nuebe mesis `nai mankinatga hamyu? Haf` mohon? Pues taiguenau lokue` hila` nanan mame!

Bokan paumata`

Gi megai besis gi fina` lugat guihan, sessu hu atan modun natibu mamahan tat guihan kumu kachu`. Ni un` biahe `nai hu li`e mamahan un` patte gi kachu soluke ha fahan enteru ya ma`pos para i gima`. Lau guaha ha` gi un` banda i esta man-mapika tat kumu dofin entalu` i ilu, mediu tatautau yan dadalag.

Dispues `nai hu sosoda` gi konbetsasion-hu yan man-amku` haf` este na modun mamahan guihan. Era yaña i natibu bokan paumata` ya guiya la`mon gi la`moña haf` para u kanu` fine`nina gi kachu. Yangin guahu muna` gasgas pues debi bai kanu` i korason yan chada` kachu`. Kumu guaha asiga yan doni` sali magpu` i gipot. Haspog-yu` antes de bai planta sinasan sensin gi hechuran sashimi.

Guaha lokue` un` amiguhu na an` guiya muna` gasgas tilipas binadu, ha hinaguan marineru, pika, meskla ya hana`lagu. Magahet na pau taki` flitadaña. Hu faisen haf` na taiguihe preparasioña, ilegña "Ennague` `nai mina flitatada i pau tataki` dididi`". Dios mihu! Hombre, hu fa`yu` i finu `nai ha latigasu-yu`, "Ya haf` bisnesmu fumala` i higadu sin lemon `sino binagle, asiga yan doni?" Tapbla!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Here's why I did it

A person asked me what prompted me to demonstrate for alien workers at this year's parade.

I've wanted to do something for a long time, but there's never been a chance. I thought the Independence Day parade would be a good chance for me. I wanted to tell the people in the U.S. that not every state is celebrating happy things, but in some places there are also people treated without justice and in pain.

Many alien workers work hard, obey the law, pay taxes, and stay here for many years with a dream of America. What makes us/me stay here so long is trust in the U.S. system. The U.S. is a democracy with human rights and freedom. But the government just treats alien workers like tools. The government allowed alien workers to come in and build the hotels and garment industries, with the goal of eventually training locals to replace them. But in the end, they found they could not replace all the alien workers, because hotels would have to close.

For many years, the local government has treated alien workers like thieves who come here to take jobs away from locals. Whoever is against us cares more about local benefit or prefers local workers. I think this is a mistake, because alien workers came here and helped build up and develop this island. But the government treats alien workers and investors the same. "If you don't like it here, you can go," never mind how much money has been invested here.

After all these many years, alien workers and locals are now almost like a whole family, because many alien workers have worked here for over 10 or 20 years. Some alien workers have already died here. I have a Filipina friend who helps me do housekeeping work; she's almost 60 years old and has stayed here over 20 years with her husband. She is a very diligent, reliable, and honest worker. Because she's old, her employer may not renew her CW visa. If she leaves the CNMI, she will be separated from husband. But if she could stay, she could be with her husband and take care of him.

Because they have lived here a long time and their status has not changed, alien workers are just like tied slaves. After all the time they've invested here, it would be difficult for them to return home and restart. Even to visit back home, they must pay a $190 fee, and they are never sure if U.S. Immigration will allow them to re-enter. Many of them have children here.

I've been here 17 years, and I know lots of people have stayed here longer than me. When I came here many people said staying on Saipan has no future. But as long as there is a bit of hope, we will believe in this great nation until the end.

What I am thinking is the same as most alien workers, but because they are scared or shy, they hesitate and lack confidence to show it. I hope my demonstration is a spark to unite us all to stand up for our rights.

If we don't move, we won't know how powerful we are.

Respectfully,

Wang Guolong
Garapan, Saipan

Get yourselves educated

PSS needs more smarts, not more money. More money only means more nonsensical trips that could be done on Google+ or Skype, more useless payments to educational companies for outdated software, buying books and other printed materials that are outdated before they even arrive on Saipan, and more perks for administrators and teachers. It means nothing to our students who will getting the same old, outdated, lame, useless education they have been getting for the last 36 years. Its 2014, FaceTime is here folks.

The statement by Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero that "we need to look at education 20 years from now" shows how out of touch he is with reality. By the time a course syllabus is written today, it is already out of date. You guys in charge need to be thinking about what education will look like next week, not 20 years from now. I've asked over 300 students, "Has any teacher ever asked you what you want to study today?" The result was zero yes, 300 no. I can't find a single adult connected with PSS that knows what education is doing around the world today. All you have to do is YouTube your grade, i.e., 11th grade classroom or 3rd grade classroom or whatever, and there are millions of videos showing what teachers in other countries are doing—and teachers in other countries are much more inventive than in the U.S. by a wide margin.

Commissioner Sablan says more money will fix all her problems. I say your curriculum is your problem. I say 1950s "teaching methods" is your problem. I say 10,000 bored, unengaged, brain-dead students is your problem. Students want to "learn" and if you will just get touch screen tablets for each student, they can teach themselves and your teachers can observe and guide where necessary. They might even actually help students that have problems at home by spotting abused or neglected kids early on. She only needs to YouTube "education in Finland" and see what they accomplish by letting each principal run their school as a separate entity.

All of you with a stake in education—students, parents, teachers, administrators and others—need to get on YouTube and do it before school starts. There are millions of new ways to let students learn that we are not, but could be, implementing here. What students need is a touch screen tablet with the 3R educational apps on them for Kinder to Grade 3, and an Internet hookup for Grades 4 to 8. After Grade 8, they need to be directed to vocational, technical or academic studies. It isn't rocket science, but you are not going to make a rocket scientist out of a student that wants to be a cook, and you shouldn't even try. Let them learn what they are interested in as soon as they can read, write and do 'rithmetic. Every 7th and 8th grade student needs to spend time looking at www.bls.gov too. There are over 18,000 job categories and young people here only know about 30 of them. Oh yeah, stop teaching American measurements, 80 percent of the people in the CNMI use metrics. Congratulations, Loria Hocog. I can't find a single item, anywhere on the Web, ever said or any accomplishment ever achieved by any of your predecessors. I hope you will be a transparent, vocal, in your face (BOE's face) student rep. I also hope you know you are getting short-changed in your education.

Gary DuBrall
Chalan Piao, Saipan

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

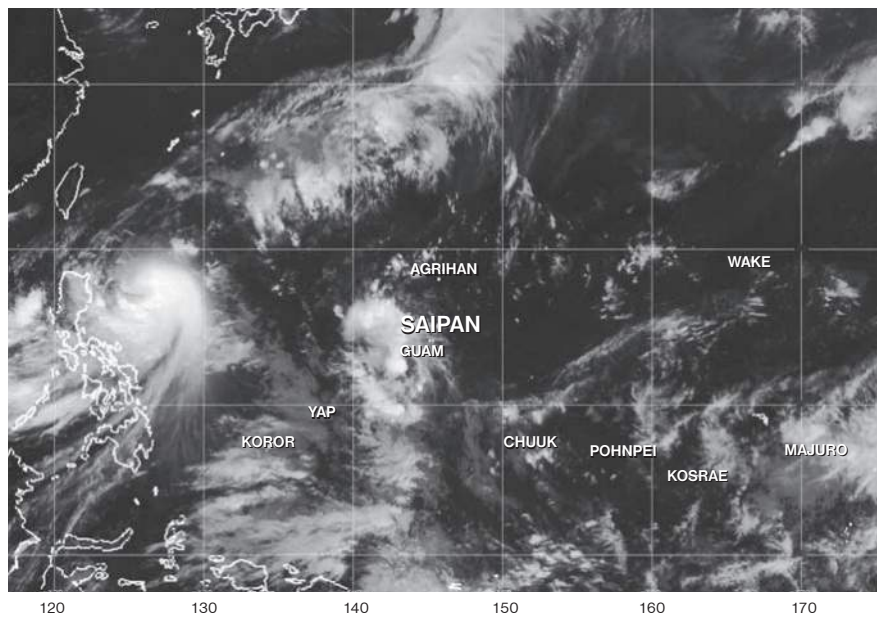
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲57	▼42
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲95	▼72
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼76
London	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼62
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲85	▼66
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼76
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼44
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼71
Osaka	Sunny	▲87	▼71
Paris	Showers	▲80	▼63
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼73
Rome	Thunderstorms	▲77	▼64
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼57
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲66	▼58
Seoul	Rain	▲76	▼71
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼75
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲90	▼74

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward from 16N130E through tropical disturbances centered south of Guam near 12N144E and south of Pohnpei near 2N158E then continues northeastward to end near 10N180. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring within 200 miles of a line from 16N130E to 11N136E to EQ132E. Another band of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms is found west of the Marianas to southeast of Yap within 150 miles of a line from 16N142E to 8N144E to 3N142E to EQ137E farther east. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found over the Marshall Islands between 11N and 3N from 164E to the date line. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorm well northwest of the Mariana Islands between 25N and 21N from 131E to 140E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:07 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
11:46 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
6:56 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
11:39 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:53 AM	2:58 PM
Wednesday	2:41 AM	3:49 PM
Thursday	3:30 AM	4:38 PM
Friday	4:20 AM	5:25 PM
Saturday	5:09 AM	6:09 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
D28009	12:50pm	4:05pm	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU763	7:20am	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Public library ends session one of 'Fizz Boom Read'

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI Motheread presentation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Last day of session one of the "Fizz Boom Read" 2014 Collaborative Reading Program at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With over 180 children registered, an average of 130 attended session one of the "Fizz Boom Read" 2014 Collaborative Reading Program from June 24 to July 8 at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Children's activities included "Read Aloud and Crafts" on Tuesdays, Computer Day on Wednesday, Special Guest Day on Thursday, and Friday Movie Day and Reading Challenge where children who read at least 10 books receive an incentive from one of the program's sponsors.

Computer research skills were honed as children played scavenger hunts on subscription database EBSCO. Children were also treated to guests like Lulu the Canario and Primo the Fish who gave the children gifts courtesy of the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

Maria Onni of the Division of Fish and Wildlife taught the children of the importance of preventing brown tree snakes from multiplying on island. Onni presented children with an actual snake and allowed them to touch it.

Anne Yamada read *Brown Bear, Brown, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin to the children on top of teaching them signs for the different colors and the alphabet.

The children took a short field trip to the Guma Hustisia and toured the courthouse, where they met Associate Judge Joseph Camacho, asked him questions, and touched his gavel. They also got to sit in on live court proceedings.

The children received free food during the summer program's last week, courtesy of PSS' Food and Nutrition Program.

JKPL summer volunteers. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JKPL wants to reach out to children ages 6-12 who weren't able to attend the program at the library, and JKPL will bring the program closer to children who weren't able to attend the program at the library due to the location. They are reaching out to children ages 6-12.

The following are the dates and locations.

- Session 2: Koblerville Youth Center, July 22- July 25, 1pm – 3:30pm
- Session 3: Garapan Youth Center, July 29 – Aug. 1; 1pm – 3:30pm
- Session 4: Tanapag Youth Center, Aug. 5 – Aug. 8, 1pm – 3:30pm
- Session 5: Kagman Youth Center, Aug. 12 - Aug. 14, 1pm – 3:30pm
- Session 6: Teen Read Program, JKPL, Aug. 12 – Aug. 22

A child is limited to one session and must have a valid JKPL library card with no pending fees and or fines.

This year's sponsors are 360 Revolving Restaurant, KSPN 2 News Crew, Flame Tree TV, Bestseller Bookstore, Bridge Capitol, Chong's Corp., Coca Cola, D&Q, FSM Bank, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Hardt Eye Clinic, Horizons Inc., Hyatt Regency Saipan, Island Apparel, JCT Enterprises, JETS Group of Companies, LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, Liberty Plaza, Lollipops, MegaByte, Modern Stationary, National Office Supply, Pacific Subsea, TransAmerica, Saipan World Resort, DPW, CNMI Humanities Motheread Program, SDA Clinic, Anna Yamada, Beth Demapan, Brian Manabat, Lori Serna, PSS- Food and Nutrition Program, BECQ, AmeriCorps volunteers, student volunteers, and JKPL.

For more information, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, or fax 235-7550.

Session one group photo. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

Before doctors check your vitals, check out theirs 1st

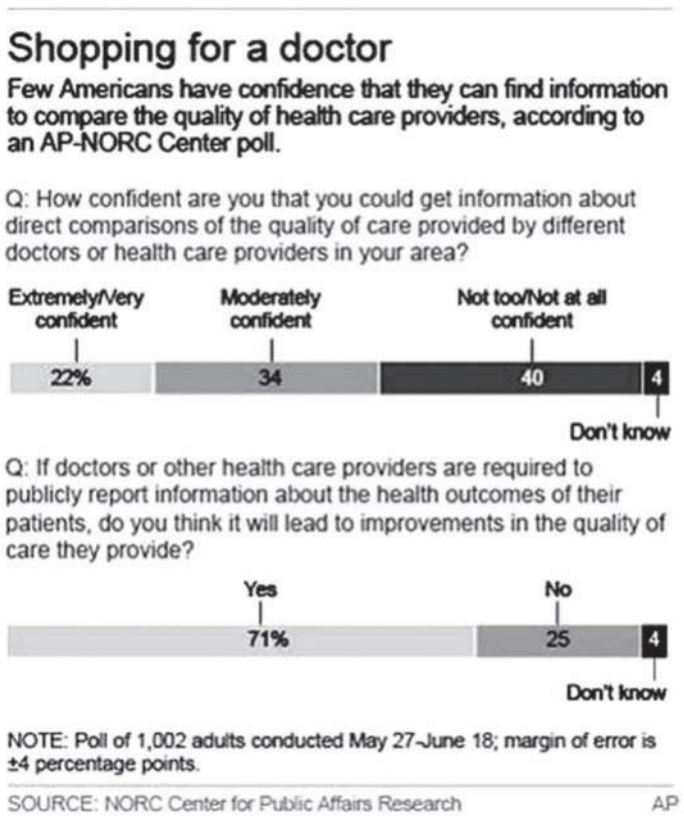
WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans consider insurance and a good bedside manner in choosing a doctor, but will that doctor provide high-quality care? A new poll shows that people don't know how to determine that.

Being licensed and likable doesn't necessarily mean a doctor is up to date on best practices. But consumers aren't sure how to uncover much more. Just 22 percent of those questioned are confident they can find information to compare the quality of local doctors, according to the poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Today, 6 in 10 people say they trust doctor recommendations from friends or family, and nearly half value referrals from their regular physician. The poll found far fewer trust quality information from online patient reviews, health insurers, ratings web sites, the media, even the government.

"I usually go on references from somebody else, because it's hard to track them any other way," said Kenneth Murks, 58, of Lexington, Alabama. His mother suggested a bone and joint specialist after a car accident.

"I guess you can do some Internet searches now," he added, but questions the accuracy of online reviews.


Shopping for a doctor
Few Americans have confidence that they can find information to compare the quality of health care providers, according to an AP-NORC Center poll.
Q: How confident are you that you could get information about direct comparisons of the quality of care provided by different doctors or health care providers in your area?
Extremely/Very confident
Moderately confident
Not too/Not at all confident
22%
34
40
4
Don't know
Q: If doctors or other health care providers are required to publicly report information about the health outcomes of their patients, do you think it will lead to improvements in the quality of care they provide?
Yes
No
71%
25
4
Don't know
NOTE: Poll of 1,002 adults conducted May 27-June 18; margin of error is ±4 percentage points.
SOURCE: NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
AP

The United States spends more on health care than most developed nations, yet Americans don't have better health to show for it. A recent government report found we miss out on 30 percent of the care recommended to prevent or treat common conditions. At the same time, we undergo lots of unneeded medical testing and outmoded or inappropriate therapies.

Yet people rarely see a problem. In the poll, only 4 percent said they receive poor quality care.

About half believe better care is more expensive, even as the government, insurers and health specialists are pushing for new systems to improve quality while holding down costs.

It's hard to imagine buying a car without checking rankings, but checking out a doctor is much more difficult. Many specialists say standardized measures of health outcomes are key, though very little is available.

Doctors who listen are important, but "some of the nicest doctors are the least competent," cautioned Dr. Elliott Fisher of the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. Higher-quality care actually tends to be less expensive, by keeping people healthy and out of the hospital, and avoiding errors and the complications of unneeded care, he said.

It's getting a little easier to compare multi-physician offices, if not individual doctors. Online report cards in a few states have begun offering some information on quality outcomes from group practices.

In Minnesota, for example, consumers can compare how many people have diabetes, high blood pressure and some other chronic conditions under control in different practices, plus how satisfied patients are. Report cards in California and Massachusetts add how well certain group practices follow guidelines on cancer screening and avoiding unneeded X-rays and MRIs for back pain.

By year's end, Medicare plans to have released quality measurements for more than 160 large group practices, with more information on smaller clinics set for 2015. Called Physician Compare, the online star ratings also will include patient feedback.

The goal is to spur better care as doctors check out the competition.

The arrival of large amounts of quality information "is a big deal. It's a huge shift in terms of transparency and driving quality improvement," Dr. Patrick Conway, Medicare's chief medical officer, told the AP.

Consumers think it would help. More than 7 in 10 say quality would improve if doctors had to publicly report their patients' health outcomes and how satisfied they are.

US states with higher minimum wages gain more jobs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Maybe a higher minimum wage isn't so bad for job growth after all.

The 13 U.S. states that raised their minimum wages at the beginning of this year are adding jobs at a faster pace than those that did not, providing some counter-intuitive fuel to the debate over what impact a higher minimum has on hiring trends.

Many business groups argue that raising the minimum wage discourages job growth by increasing the cost of hiring. A Congressional Budget Office report earlier this year lent some support for that view. It found that a minimum wage of $10.10 an hour, as President Obama supports, could cost 500,000 jobs nationwide.

But the state-by-state hiring data, released Friday by the Labor Department, provides ammunition to those who disagree. Economists who support a higher minimum say the figures are encouraging, though they acknowledge they don't establish a cause and effect. There are many possible reasons hiring might accelerate in a particular state.

"It raises serious questions about the claims that a raise in the minimum wage is a jobs disaster," said John Schmitt, a senior economist at the liberal Center for Economic and Policy Research. The job data "isn't definitive," he added, but is "probably a reasonable first cut at what's going on."

MCT

Cindy Iames, 58, right, and Damien Ross, age unknown, work in the kitchen of Chimes Cafe in Baltimore, June 12, 2014. Both have worked in food services at Chimes for several years, and both make less than the minimum wage.

Just last week, Obama cited the better performance by the 13 states in support of his proposal for boosting the minimum wage nationwide.

"When ... you raise the minimum wage, you give a bigger chance to folks who are climbing the ladder, working hard.... And the whole economy does better, including businesses," Obama said in Denver.

In the 13 states that boosted their minimums at the beginning of the year, the number of jobs grew an average of 0.85 percent from January through June. The average for the other 37 states was 0.61 percent.

Nine of the 13 states increased their minimum wages automatically in line with inflation: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Missouri, Montana, Ohio, Oregon, Vermont and Washington. Four more states—Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island—approved legislation mandating the increases.

Twelve of those states have seen job growth this year, while employment in Vermont has been flat. The number of jobs in Florida has risen 1.6 percent this year, the most of the 13 states with higher minimums. Its minimum rose to $7.93 an hour from $7.79 last year.

Don't back down when co-workers drive dangerously

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. *Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

QUESTION: I'm afraid that I could be hurt or killed by colleagues who insist on texting while driving. Recently, one of my co-workers offered to drive us to a meeting with a new client. On the way back to the office, "Brad" received a text from his daughter and began reading it while we were in heavy traffic.

When Brad started typing a reply, I told him that this made me uncomfortable. He indignantly replied that he is a good driver who has never had an accident. Ever since that incident, Brad has made mocking comments to others about my "texting paranoia". How should I handle this?

ANSWER: Your reckless colleague is acting like an idiot. If Brad is too stupid to comprehend that one cannot simultaneously type, steer, and watch the road, then someone should show him the statistics on people who have been killed or injured due to texting behind the wheel. As long as he continues this practice, you should avoid riding with him.

However, you may find that Brad's contemptuous account of your "texting paranoia" actually turns out to be helpful. A reputation for being concerned about distracted driving might cause others to curb their bad habits whenever you're a passenger. But if they don't, you should continue to speak up, for their sake as well as your own.

Because distracted driving is a serious and widespread problem, every organization should have a widely publicized prohibition against it. Anyone wishing to promote this idea with their employer can find a sample policy on the U.S. Department of Labor website at https://www.osha.gov/distracted-driving/modelpolicies.html .

Q: My boss' secretary is domineering and rude. "Karen" acts sweet as pie when our manager is around, but becomes very unpleasant when he's gone. Despite the fact that I'm a department head, Karen shows absolutely no respect for my position. She will actually scold me if I do something she doesn't like.

Since my boss never sees Karen's true personality, I have considered sending him an email describing her behavior. However, I'm concerned that he might refuse to believe me and take her side. What do you think I should do?

A: If you want to avoid making a huge political mistake, you need to get a grip on your ego. Even if Karen has the personality of a pit viper, she works closely with your manager and probably makes his job a lot easier. Should you appear to have difficulty working with her, he could easily conclude that you are the problem.

Although they seldom have formal power, secretaries frequently have a great deal of influence. Constant proximity not only provides a wealth of information about their manager's preferences, but also gives them many opportunities to share their views. They can be helpful allies or dangerous enemies. So if you care about your career, stop fretting about whether Karen shows you sufficient respect and start trying to get along with her.

Nation

AP

Ukrainian Emergency workers carry a victim's body in a body bag as pro-Russian fighters stand in guard at the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 near the village of Hrabove, eastern Ukraine, Sunday, July 20, 2014.

US outlines case against Russia on DOWNED PLANE

WASHINGTON (AP)—Video of a rocket launcher, one surface-to-air missile missing, leaving the likely launch site. Imagery showing the firing. Calls claiming credit for the strike. Recordings said to reveal a cover-up at the crash site.

"A buildup of extraordinary circumstantial evidence ... it's powerful here," said Secretary of State John Kerry, a former prosecutor, and it holds Russian-supported rebels in eastern Ukraine responsible for shooting down Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, with the Kremlin complicit in the deaths of nearly 300 passengers and crew members.

"This is the moment of truth for Russia," said Kerry, leveling some of Washington's harshest criticism of Moscow since the crisis in Ukraine began.

"Russia is supporting these separatists. Russia is arming these separatists. Russia is training these separatists, and Russia has not yet done the things necessary in order to try to bring them under control," he said.

In a round of television interviews, Kerry cited a mix of U.S. and Ukrainian intelligence and social media reports that he said "obviously points a very clear finger at the separatists" for firing the missile that brought the plane down, killing nearly 300 passengers and crew.

"It's pretty clear that this is a system that was transferred from Russia into the hands of separatists," he said.

Video of an SA-11 launcher, with one of its missiles missing and leaving the likely launch site, has been authenticated, he said.

An Associated Press journalist saw a missile launcher in rebel-held territory close to the crash site just hours before the plane was brought down Thursday.

"There's a buildup of extraordinary circumstantial evidence," Kerry said. "We picked up the imagery of this launch. We know the trajectory. We know where it came from. We know the timing, and it was exactly at the time that this aircraft disappeared from the radar. We also know from voice identification that the separatists were bragging about shooting it down afterward."

In one set of calls, said by Ukrainian security services to have been recorded shortly after the plane was hit, a prominent rebel commander, Igor Bezler, tells a Russian military intelligence officer that rebel forces shot down a plane.

Shortly before Kerry's television appearances, the U.S. Embassy in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, released a statement saying experts had authenticated the calls.

"Audio data provided to the press by the Ukrainian security service was evaluated by intelligence community analysts who confirmed these were authentic conversations between known separatist leaders, based on comparing the Ukraine-released internet audio to recordings of known separatists," the statement said.

A new set of recordings apparently made Friday also appears to implicate rebels in an attempted cover-up at the crash site.

In one exchange, a man identified as the leader of the rebel Vostok Battalion Alexander Khodakovsky states that two recording devices are being held by the head of intelligence of the insurgency's military commander. The commander is then heard to order the militiaman to ensure no outsiders, including an international observation team near the crash site at the reported time of the call, get hold of any material.

The man identified as Khodakovsky says he is pursuing inquiries about the black boxes under instructions from "our high-placed friends ... in Moscow."

In another conversation with a rebel representative at the crash site who reports finding an orange box marked as a satellite navigation box, Khodakovsky is purported to order that the object be hidden.

U.S. aviation safety experts say they are especially concerned the site will be "spoiled" if it cannot be quickly secured by investigators. Based on photographs, they say it is a very large debris field consistent with an in-flight explosion and the main evidence to be collected would be pieces of the missile.

Because the integrity of the plane and actions of the pilots are not an issue, the experts do not believe the flight recorders will yield much useful information.

U.S. and Ukrainian authorities have been at the forefront of accusations that the separatists, aided by Russia, are responsible, although other countries, including Australia and Britain have offered similar, if less definitive, assessments.

British Prime Minister David Cameron said in an unusual front-page piece in the Sunday Times that there is growing evidence that separatist backed by Russia shot down the aircraft.

"If President (Vladimir) Putin does not change his approach to Ukraine, then Europe and the West must fundamentally change our approach to Russia," Cameron wrote.

Putin and other Russian officials have blamed the government in Ukraine for creating the situation and atmosphere in which the plane was downed, but have yet to directly address the allegations that the separatists were responsible or were operating with technical assistance from Moscow.

In his interviews, Kerry accused Russia of "playing" a dual-track policy in Ukraine of saying one thing and doing another. That, he said, "is really threatening both the larger interests as well as that region and threatening Ukraine itself."

He lamented that the level of trust between Washington and Moscow is now at a low ebb, saying it "would be ridiculous at this point in time to be trusting" of what the Kremlin says.

Kerry also said the administration was hopeful that the incident would galvanize support in Europe for increasing sanctions on Russia over its overall actions in Ukraine.

"We hope this is a wake-up call for some countries in Europe that have been reluctant to move," Kerry said, noting that President Barack Obama had signed off on a new round of sanctions on Russia the day before the plane went down.

Kerry made his comments in appearance on five talk shows: CNN's "State of the Union," "Fox News Sunday," CBS's "Face the Nation," NBC's "Meet the Press," and ABC's "This Week."

ACROSS THE NATION

Police: California bank robber linked to 2 heists

FRESNO, California (AP)—Police in Stockton, California, confirmed Sunday that a bank robber killed in a recent police shootout and hostage situation was among those suspected in an earlier heist at the same bank branch. Alex Gregory Martinez, a 27-year-old who died Wednesday in a shootout that also killed a bank customer taken hostage, had been among those who robbed the Bank of the West on Jan. 31, Officer Joe Silva said. Detectives linked Martinez to the two robberies through surveillance video, witness statements and comparing circumstances, Silva said. In both cases, the robbers were dropped off and made their getaway by stealing a bank employee's car, he said. "Ever since the deadly bank robbery, investigators have been working around the clock," said Silva, adding that the police continue their search for the driver who took the robbers to the bank.

'Modified duty' for medics after fatal NYC arrest

NEW YORK (AP)—Four emergency workers involved in the medical response for a New York City man who died in police custody after being put in an apparent chokehold have been placed on "modified duty" and barred from responding to 911 calls, the Fire Department of New York said Sunday. The two EMTs and two paramedics removed from the city's emergency response system are the latest public safety workers to face reassignment as questions mount about Thursday's death of Eric Garner. Two police officers—including the one who put his arm around Garner's neck—have been put on desk duty. The medics' modified duty restrictions will remain in effect pending an investigation into their actions, fire department spokesman James Long said.

2 Americans killed in fighting in Gaza Strip

Two Americans who were soldiers for the Israel Defense Force were killed in fighting in the Gaza Strip. Stuart Steinberg confirmed the death of his 24-year-old son Max Steinberg to The Associated Press on Sunday. Steinberg, whose family lives in Southern California's San Fernando Valley, was a sharpshooter for the Golani Brigade and was one of 13 men killed in fighting Saturday. Earlier Sunday, the IDF said in a statement that 21-year-old Sgt. Nissim Sean Carmeli was killed in combat in the Gaza Strip. Deputy Consul General Maya Kadosh says Carmeli was from South Padre Island, Texas. Steinberg was living in Beersheba, Israel. He attended Pierce College and El Camino Real High School in Southern California. After visiting Israel, he decided to return and join the IDF in December 2012. ***(AP)***

NV veteran gets surprise $1K check after robbery

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—A 101-year-old veteran in Carson City who was the victim of a home invasion robbery over the Memorial Day weekend has received a $1,000 check during a surprise visit from supporters. Members of Western Nevada College's Student Veterans Club presented the check to James Sorrentino on Friday. Organizer Bill Herron says the group wanted Sorrentino to know the community is behind him and people aren't all bad. Authorities say two men forced their way into Sorrentino's home looking for a safe on May 25, but Sorrentino doesn't have one. After ransacking the home, they fled with a wristwatch, pocketknife and wallet containing $30. The suspects were later arrested and face criminal charges. Sorrentino is a World War II Army Air Corps and Air Force veteran.

Asia

Anti-Russia sentiment running deep in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Many Malaysians are urging their government and world leaders to take a tough stance against Russia after pro-Russia rebels allegedly shot down a Malaysia Airlines jet, with some calling for economic sanctions and a boycott of Russian goods.

While the rebels and Ukraine blame each other for Thursday's downing of Flight 17 over eastern Ukraine, near the Russian border, Russia's government is being accused of not doing enough to ensure that authorities have proper access to the crash site.

Much of the Malaysian anger toward Russia stems from the inability for family members of Muslims who were aboard the plane to perform burial rites as quickly as possible, according to Islamic custom. Of the 298 people aboard the plane, 43 were from Muslim-majority Malaysia and 12 were from Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country.

The plane crashed in rebel-held territory, and the separatists—who are being blamed for shooting down the plane by much of the international community, including the United States—have been accused of preventing emergency workers from retrieving the victims' bodies.

The issue has caused deep resentment in Malaysia, where many have blasted Russian President Vladimir Putin. Even politicians, who on Friday were careful not to point any fingers, seem to be losing patience.

"Pro-Russian terrorists have not handled (hash)MH17 victims with dignity. Putin promised PM (at)NajibRazak he would help. He hasn't," Malaysian Youth and Sport Minister Khairy Jamaluddin tweeted Sunday, referring to Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak.

As people headed to Kuala Lumpur shopping malls on Sunday, their minds were still reeling from the horrific images of the crash site that have inundated television screens here. Many were calling for tough economic sanctions and an international boycott of Russian goods and services.

"Our government and the whole world have to do something about this case," said 27-year-old Nur Zehan Abu Bakar, who works in the education sector. "If not, what will happen to our country? What will happen to (Malaysia Airlines)? To show that we are angry with Russia and if they still continue not to help us, I think the best way is for all Malaysians to boycott Russian products."

Charles Foo, a retiree who was spending time with his family outside a mall, echoed Nur Zehan's sentiments. "They (Russia) are a big country. We are a very small country, so how much can we do, unless all nations in the world stop buying their goods and whatever," he said.

Malaysia is one of Russia's main trading partners in Southeast Asia. Russia also is a key supplier for Malaysia's military, delivering 18 Sukhoi fighter jets to the Malaysian air force over the past decade.

James Chin, a professor at the political science unit of Monash University in Malaysia, said he believed it was unlikely that Russian-Malaysian relations would be seriously harmed as a result of the incident, though he added that a lot would depend on the outcome of the official investigation.

"The Malaysian government really can't do much," Chin said. "The Malaysian government takes the position that it cannot antagonize the Russians now because they hold the key to the investigation."

Some Malaysians said it was important to remain rational and wait for the investigation to be completed.

"For now, I will calm myself down and not listen to all the noise," a 36-year-old dancer, who wanted to be identified only by his family name, Wong, said at a popular Kuala Lumpur shopping district. "There is no point for me to get emotional at the moment. I encourage everyone to stay calm."

Tricia Yeoh, chief operating officer at the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs, a Malaysian think tank, said while she could understand why Malaysians are so upset, people need to wait for a thorough investigation to be completed before reaching any conclusions on who is responsible for the disaster.

"People need to be cautious in a geo-political climate and environment in which not all information is being revealed," Yeoh said. "We certainly do not know all there is to know, and for that reason I would have to wait. Having said that, of course all governments should be cooperating to ensure investigations are thoroughly done. This includes Russia."

Shot down

Notable passenger planes shot down over conflict zones:

Oct. 4, 2001 — 78 killed
Ukrainian military accidentally shoots down a Siberian Airlines flight over the Black Sea during a training exercise

Sept. 21, 1993 — 136 killed
Three Transair Georgia airliners hit by missiles on three consecutive days by Abkhazian rebels, two hit in the air, one on the ground

July 3, 1988 — 290 killed
U.S. warship Vincennes shoots down an Iranian passenger plane over the Persian Gulf when it was mistaken for a warplane

Sept. 1, 1983 — 269 killed
A Soviet fighter jet shoots down a Korean Air Lines passenger jet when it veers off-course and strays into Soviet territory

Feb. 21, 1973 — 108 killed
Israeli fighters fire on a Libyan Arab Airlines jet that strayed into Israeli-controlled airspace over the Sinai Desert

© 2014 MCT
Source: AP, McClatchy Washington Bureau

Strongest storm in decades in south China kills 18

AP

In this Saturday, July 19, 2014 photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, a vehicle sits under a collapsed building after landfall of typhoon Rammasun in Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province.

BEIJING (AP)—The strongest typhoon to hit southern China in four decades has killed 18 people and destroyed tens of thousands of homes, the government and state media said Sunday, while in the Philippines the death toll from the storm's earlier destruction rose to 94.

Typhoon Rammasun killed nine people and left five missing after hitting Hainan island on Friday off China's southern coast, the civil affairs ministry said in a statement. Nine others died later in the Guangxi region as the storm plowed into the mainland on its way north to Vietnam.

The storm destroyed 37,000 homes and ravaged 468,500 hectares (1.2 million acres) of crops in Hainan and Guangdong provinces and Guangxi, causing $4.3 billion in damage, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

The typhoon is the strongest to hit southern China in 41 years, according to the China Meteorological Administration. Wind speeds reached 216 kilometers (130 miles) per hour, with the storm knocking down power lines and damaging buildings, Xinhua said.

Authorities in southern China ordered the highest level of alert and suspended hundreds of buses, trains and flights across the region.

The typhoon had wreaked havoc in the northern Philippines last week, leaving 94 people dead.

Smoking Philippine leader OKs cigarette warnings

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, a known smoker, has signed a law requiring tobacco companies to put graphic health warnings on cigarette packs in a country where tens of thousands of people die every year from tobacco-linked diseases, an official said Sunday.

Aquino signed the law Friday "to effectively instill health consciousness through graphic health warnings on tobacco products," presidential spokesman Herminio Coloma Jr. said. With the law, the Philippines joins more than 40 other nations and territories that have adopted similar regulations and brought the battle against smoking to the cover of cigarette packs.

Research has suggested that the scary warnings have prompted some to quit smoking, but the World Health Organization estimates that nearly 6 million people continue to die globally each year from smoking-related causes. The tobacco industry has fought government efforts to introduce or increase the size of graphic warnings in some countries.

The Philippine law was not immediately made public, but legislation approved by lawmakers last month required 50 percent of the bottom of cigarette packs, front and back, to be covered by graphic pictures and illustrations of smoking hazards such as damaged lungs and throats.

Anti-tobacco advocates welcomed the law rather cautiously. Emer Rojas, a laryngeal cancer survivor who heads an anti-tobacco group in the Philippines, said the law would discourage would-be smokers and reduce tobacco consumption, but added it was a compromise that also accommodated the concerns of tobacco companies.

"It's like seeing poison on a pack," Rojas said. "This will save many from smoking, especially the young."

He called for vigilance, saying there were provisions in the law that may allow tobacco companies to interfere in the law's enforcement.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Man slashes 3 children, killing 1 in China

BEIJING (AP)—A man wielding a knife has slashed three children in the southern Chinese province of Guangdong, with state news agency Xinhua reporting one of the children has died. The message on Xinhua's official Twitter account did not provide more details Monday. China has suffered a series of knife attacks on children, mostly in schools. In May, a man with a knife wounded first- and second-graders at a school in central China.

Myanmar finds rape case causing unrest was faked

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—The alleged rape of a Buddhist woman by two Muslim men that triggered religious violence in the central Myanmar city of Mandalay was fabricated, authorities said Sunday. A Home Ministry announcement published in the Myanma Ahlin newspaper said a third Muslim man had sought to frame the two owners of a tea shop because he blamed them for his being charged earlier with the rape of one of his female employees. The unrest earlier this month was tamped down after a few days, but demonstrated how volatile ethnic and religious tensions remain in predominantly Buddhist Myanmar, where several hundred people have been killed since 2012 in sectarian violence.

McDonald's, KFC in China face new food scandal

BEIJING (AP)—McDonald's and KFC in China say they have stopped using meat from a supplier in Shanghai while authorities investigate a report it sold expired beef and chicken. The report by a Shanghai television station that Shanghai Husi Food Co., Ltd. reprocessed and sold old meat adds to a string of food safety scares in China. The official Xinhua News Agency said authorities suspended Husi's operations and ordered its products recalled while they investigate the report. McDonald's Corp. and Yum Brands Inc., which owns KFC and Pizza Hut, said they immediately stopped using Husi's products and would conduct their own investigations.

World

Bodies from downed jet piled in boxcars in Ukraine

TOREZ, Ukraine (AP)—Pro-Moscow rebels piled nearly 200 bodies from the downed Malaysian jetliner into four refrigerated boxcars Sunday in eastern Ukraine, and cranes at the crash scene moved big chunks of the Boeing 777, drawing condemnation from Western leaders that the rebels were tampering with the site.

The United States, meanwhile, presented what it called "powerful" evidence that the rebels shot down the plane with a Russian surface-to-air missile and training. Although other governments have stopped short of accusing Russia of actually causing the crash, the U.S. was ahead of most in pointing blame on Moscow for the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 that killed all 298 people aboard.

"Russia is supporting these separatists. Russia is arming these separatists. Russia is training these separatists," Secretary of State John Kerry said on CNN.

■■■

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Diplomats said the U.N. Security Council could vote as early as Monday on an Australia-proposed resolution demanding international access to the Ukraine plane crash site and a cease-fire around the area. But Australia and Russia late Sunday were still working out key differences, and Britain accused Moscow of using "delaying tactics."

The resolution calls for pro-Russia separatists to allow access to the site of the downed Malaysia Airlines passenger jet carrying 298 people, including 37 Australian citizens and residents. It asks for the full cooperation of all countries in the region, including Russia.

Australia's foreign minister, Julie Bishop, said she expects all 15 council members to support her country's proposal.

AP

Ukrainian emergency workers dismantle the wreckage at the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 near the village of Hrabove, eastern Ukraine, Sunday, July 20, 2014.

Aboard MH17

Nationality count of passengers on Malaysia Airlines Flight 17:

Netherlands **193***

Malaysia **43**

Australia **27**

Indonesia **12**

United Kingdom **10***

Belgium **4** Germany **4**

Filipino **3**

Canada **1** New Zealand **1**

NOTE: As of July 19

*Dual citizenships:
Netherland-U.S., 1
Netherlands-U.K., 2
U.K.-South Africa, 1

Source: Malaysia Airlines, New York Times

Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2014 MCT

■■■

Leaders of Britain, France, Germany and Australia spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin by phone late Sunday, urging him to use his influence on the separatists to ensure the victims could be repatriated and international investigators could have full access to collect evidence. They said European foreign ministers will be meeting in Brussels Tuesday to consider further sanctions on Russia.

More than three days after the jetliner crashed, international investigators still had only limited access to the sprawling fields where the plane fell.

U.N. Security Council diplomats tweeted Sunday that the council would vote Monday afternoon on a draft resolution cosponsored by Australia, France and Lithuania that would call for full access to the crash site and an independent investigation. Diplomats met to discuss the language until after midnight Monday, after an emergency council meeting on the situation in Gaza.

Impatience rose. British Prime Minister David Cameron, in a blistering opinion piece for the Sunday Times, said "the growing weight of evidence" suggests the rebels shot down the plane, and if that is so, "this is a direct result of Russia destabilizing a sovereign state, violating its territorial integrity, backing thuggish militias and training and arming them."

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott, whose country lost 28 citizens in the tragedy, said Putin "said all the right things" during their telephone conversation about ensuring an international investigation into the disaster.

"I'm now going to try to ensure that as far as Australia humanly can, we insist upon these things happening," Abbott told Sydney Radio 2GB on Monday. "The site is being treated more like a garden clean-up than a forensic investigation, and this is completely unacceptable."

Russian officials have blamed Ukraine's government for creating the situation and atmosphere in which the plane was downed, but has yet to directly address the allegations that the separatists were responsible or were operating with technical assistance from Moscow.

In a statement posted Monday on the Kremlin website, Putin said he supported an investigation of the scene by a "full team of experts" under the auspices of the International Civil Aviation Organization, a U.N. agency.

Putin also lambasted nations that use the crash for "mercenary objectives." He didn't name any countries.

The 109-square-kilometer (42-square-mile) crash site, spread out on farmland and villages, looked dramatically different Sunday, a day after armed rebels had stood guard while dozens of bodies lay in the summer heat. The rebels were gone, and 192 bodies were loaded into the refrigerated train cars in the rebel-held town of Torez, 15 kilometers (nine miles) away.

The Ukrainian government said in a statement on its website that a second train with four refrigerator cars had arrived at Torez station.

Scores dead in first major ground battle in Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—The first major ground battle in two weeks of Israel-Hamas fighting exacted a steep price Sunday: It killed 65 Palestinians and 13 Israeli soldiers and forced thousands of terrified Palestinian civilians to flee their neighborhood, reportedly used to launch rockets at Israel and now devastated by the fighting.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the offensive would continue "as long as necessary" to end attacks from Gaza on Israeli civilians.

But Hamas seems defiant, international cease-fire efforts are stalled, and international criticism is becoming more vocal as the death toll among Palestinian civilians rises.

U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon called Israel's latest incursion "atrocious," and said it must do far more to protect civilians. The U.N. Security Council was holding an emergency session Sunday night at the request of council member Jordan on the situation in Gaza.

In Israel, public opinion will struggle to tolerate rising military losses in an open-ended campaign. Already, Sunday's deaths marked the highest number of soldiers killed on a single day since Israel's war in Lebanon in 2006.

The ferocious battle in Gaza City's Shijaiyah neighborhood came on the third day of Israel's ground offensive, which had been preceded by a 10-day air campaign.

In all, at least 432 Palestinians were killed and more than 3,000 wounded in the past two weeks. The overall death toll on the Israeli side rose to 20, including 18 soldiers, along with dozens of wounded troops, during that period.

On Sunday evening, Hamas spokesman Mushir al-Masri in Gaza claimed his group had captured an Israeli soldier. An announcement on Gaza TV of the soldier's capture set off celebration in the streets of Gaza City.

But the claim could not immediately be verified, and the Israeli military said it was investigating the report. "There's no kidnapped Israeli soldier," Israel's ambassador to the U.N., Ron Prosor, told reporters Sunday night.

Hamas has made similar claims of capturing Israelis in the past that were not true. For Israelis, a captured soldier would be a nightmare scenario. Hamas-allied militants seized an Israeli soldier in a cross-border raid in 2006 and held him captive in Gaza until Israel traded more than 1,000 Palestinian prisoners, some of whom were involved in grisly killings, for his return in 2011.

Sunday's battle began when Israeli troops backed by tanks entered the densely populated Shijaiyah district just after midnight Sunday. They were met by a "huge" level of resistance by Hamas fighters who fired anti-tank missiles, rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons from houses and buildings, said Lt. Col. Peter Lerner, an army spokesman.

Residents said they came under intense Israeli tank fire.

"The gate of hell has opened, and shrapnel came through the windows," Shijaiyah resident Jawad Hassanain said by phone. He and his family fled to a nearby building after their house shook from explosions.

After daybreak, the extent of the devastation slowly became apparent: At least 65 Palestinians had been killed and nearly 300 wounded, Gaza health officials said, while dozens of homes badly damaged or destroyed.

Casualties were rushed to Gaza's central Shifa Hospital. Wailing parents, some covered with blood or dust from debris, carried children peppered by shrapnel, and the emergency room quickly overflowed, forcing doctors to treat some patients in a hallway.

During a brief Red Cross-brokered lull later in the day, rescue workers toured the neighborhood to retrieve the dead, pulling bodies from the rubble of homes.

In a last sweep of the area on Sunday afternoon, rescue workers heard the faint voice of a woman in the rubble of a house.

"I'm here with my husband and niece," the woman said, adding that there were also three bodies near her. "I'm here under the shop. God please, I can't breathe."

In the incident witnessed by Associated Press journalists, rescue workers tried to organize a bulldozer, but the situation was deemed too dangerous and the crew left. Later, the rescue workers returned with a bulldozer, after coordination with Israeli forces through the Red Crescent, and pulled the three from the rubble, said Said Hamam, a member of the rescue services.

Focus

Atlantic City doomed by glut of casinos in region

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—The rapid disintegration of Atlantic City's casino market might be an early indicator of what could happen in other parts of the country that have too many casinos and not enough gamblers.

In the 36th year of casino gambling in New Jersey, which not too long ago had a monopoly on the East Coast, the casino industry is crashing with a suddenness and a fury that has caught many people here by surprise. It started the year with 12 casinos; by mid-September, it could have eight.

The Atlantic Club shut down in January, taken down by two rivals, stripped for parts and closed in the name of reducing competition, eliminating 1,600 jobs.

In recent weeks, the owners of the Showboat and Trump Plaza announced plans to close, and Revel, which opened two years ago, said it, too, will close if a buyer can't be found in a bankruptcy court auction next month. That would put nearly 8,000 workers—about a quarter of the city's casino workforce—on the street.

"Most of us had expected one or two places to close this year and that would be it for a while, and it would give us a chance to catch our breath," said state Sen. James Whelan, a former Atlantic City mayor. "This is happening very quickly, and it is absolutely devastating to our region."

David Schwartz, director of the Center for Gaming Research at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, said casino markets around the country could find themselves in a similar situation—and soon.

Connecticut's tribal casinos have been affected by New York casinos and face an even greater challenge from new casinos going online soon in New York and Massachusetts. Mississippi, where Caesars Entertainment recently shuttered a casino in Tunica, has struggled with competition from expanded gambling in the Midwest and Florida.

Even Pennsylvania, which overtook Atlantic City as the nation's No. 2 casino market, is seeing its own casino revenue stagnate as competition grows.

"For the past 36 years, Atlantic City was basically a place people drove to play slots," Schwartz said. "Now, the last thing people in the Northeast need is to drive somewhere far away to play slots."

How did this happen?

The most immediate and powerful reason Atlantic City's casinos are struggling is because of a glut of casinos in nearby states. Since late 2006, when the first casino opened in neighboring Pennsylvania, Atlantic City's casino revenue has fallen from $5.2 billion to $2.86 billion last year. Casinos have now popped up all around New Jersey; in New York, a Manhattan casino could open before the end of the decade.

The casinos failed for years to plan for the day when they wouldn't be the only game in town. For decades, they were content to offer gambling—and little else. It wasn't until the Borgata entered the market in 2003 that Atlantic City realized the need to diversify the experience their customers could receive. That drive to offer spas, gourmet restaurants, upscale shopping and hip nightclubs—now underway with a fierce urgency—comes at a time when most people in the region live within an hour of a casino, lessening the need to drive to Atlantic City.

Companies took on mountains of debt to buy or expand casinos in Atlantic City. That wasn't so much of a problem when revenues kept increasing, but when competition and the Great Recession hit with a one-two punch, the debt became crippling. That led to layoffs, delayed new investments and some maintenance. Caesars Entertainment, which is closing the Showboat, has among the highest debt levels in the industry and has been trying to improve its balance sheet by closing some properties.

Analysts also say the resort needs more air service from the rest of the country and more capacity to host conventions and meetings—both of which Atlantic City is now trying to address.

Wall Street analysts say contraction is actually good for Atlantic City. The closings and layoffs are an economic self-correction to what had been an oversaturated market. Even Atlantic City's mayor, Don Guardian, says the market will determine how many casinos it can support. He vows to remake the city as a place with lots to do besides gambling.

Melanie Gillespie, a beverage server at the Showboat with an 11-year-old daughter, is optimistic she and her co-workers can rally public opinion against the closings and attract new buyers for at least some of them. But she's already preparing her daughter in case that effort falls short.

"She'll ask me for something, and I have to think long and hard before we go out to a movie or the waterpark now," she said. "I'm really not sure what we'll do. I haven't given up hope yet, though."

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/MCT

A man places a bet in the Asian gaming pit at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino, September 20, 2007, in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

5 things Atlantic City is doing to reverse slide

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Even before a slew of casino closings hit Atlantic City, gambling operators, government officials and regulators had been working to improve the resort's prospects. Here's a look at five things they're doing:

1 BETTER SELF-PROMOTION

As part of a five-year turnaround plan, Gov. Chris Christie and state lawmakers dedicated additional resources to helping the seaside resort. The Atlantic City Alliance is taking the $30 million a year the casinos once paid the state's horse racing industry for keeping slot machines out of New Jersey's racetracks and is instead using it to promote Atlantic City in the region and nationally. Its "Do AC" campaign is working to improve perceptions of Atlantic City and get the word out that it has more than just casinos.

2 DIVERSIFICATION

Casinos are adding new restaurants, nightclubs and amenities like the beachfront Margaritaville complex at Resorts Casino Hotel, The Quarter at Tropicana and The Pool at Harrah's. That effort has since spread to noncasino properties, including The Walk shopping outlet where a new Bass Pro Shop is due to open next year. The Miss America pageant returned last year to the place where it began.

3 CONVENTIONS AND FREEBIES

Atlantic City is making a concerted effort to go after more convention and meeting business to fill its hotels during weekdays, when many rooms sit empty. It started a marketing group, Meet AC, to seek convention business, and Caesars Entertainment is building a $126 million convention center next to Harrah's to complement the existing Atlantic City Convention Center. The city also is focusing on free public events designed to draw people and send them home happy—none of which involve gambling. Country music stars Blake Shelton and Lady Antebellum are playing free concerts on the beach, while other events include a daredevil aerial show, sand sculpting contest, beach volleyball tournament and the Miss America "show us your shoes" parade.

4 INTERNET GAMBLING

New Jersey launched online gambling in November as a way to bring new revenue to the casinos and hopefully entice people to the brick-and-mortar casinos through comps or marketing offers. Although Internet gambling revenue has declined in each of the past three months, it is still helping to make up for some of the lost casino revenue. PokerStars could kick-start things if it is cleared by state regulators.

5 DEREGULATION

State officials reduced some of the regulations the casinos found burdensome and costly as part of a regulatory remake a few years ago.

A history of casino revenue, jobs in Atlantic City

Here is a look at how gambling revenue and employment have changed since casinos launched in Atlantic City in 1978:

■ May 26, 1978: Resorts Atlantic City opens.
Casino revenue: $134 million
Casino employment: 3,300

■■■

■ June 26, 1979: Caesars Atlantic City opens.
Dec. 29, 1979: Bally's Atlantic City opens.
Casino revenue: $325 million
Casino employment: 11,300

■■■

■ Aug. 13, 1980: Sands Casino Hotel opens.
■ Nov. 23, 1980: Harrah's Atlantic City opens.
■ Dec. 9, 1980: Atlantic City Hilton opens. (It closed January 2014 as the Atlantic Club.)
Casino revenue: $642 million
Casino employment: 23,500

■■■

■ Nov. 23, 1981: Tropicana Casino and Resort opens.
Casino revenue: $1 billion
Casino employment: 28,300

■■■

■ May 14, 1984: Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino opens.
Casino revenue: $1.9 billion
Casino employment: 35,968

■■■

■ June 17, 1985: Trump Marina Hotel Casino (now the Golden Nugget) opens.
Casino revenue: $2.1 billion
Casino employment: 37,004

■■■

■ March 30, 1987: Showboat Casino Hotel opens.
Casino revenue: $2.4 billion
Casino employment: 39,351

■■■

■ April 2, 1990: Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort opens.
Casino revenue: $2.9 billion
Casino employment: 45,241

■■■

■ July 2, 2003: Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa opens.
Casino revenue: $4.4 billion
Casino employment: 42,378

■■■

■ Nov. 11, 2006: Sands Casino Hotel closes.
Casino revenue: $5.2 billion
Casino employment: 45,101

■■■

■ April 2, 2012: Revel Casino Hotel opens.
Casino revenue: $3 billion
Casino employment: 35,777

■■■

■ Jan. 13, 2014: Atlantic Club closes.
Casino revenue: $2.8 billion
Casino employment: 30,676

■■■

■ July 2014: Showboat, Trump Plaza announce impending closures; Revel warns it also could close.
Casino revenue: $1.3 billion (January-June 2014)
Casino employment: 31,960

Sources: New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement, Casino Control Commission, AP research.

Overdrive

Corvette, and its mileage, is better than ever

The 2014 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray revives the legendary moniker of the 1963 Corvette Stingray. MCT

NUTS & BOLTS:
2014 Corvette Stingray Convertible Z51:
- Base price (coupe), excluding destination charge: $53,000
- Price as tested: $73,525

By BARRY SPYKER
THE MIAMI HERALD

Yes, I could lose my motor-press credentials for this. Respect and reputation are at stake here.

The all-new 2014 Corvette Stingray—yes, the Stingray name is back—is an amazing, fully redesigned sports car. With its 6.2-liter V-8, it is loaded with raw power—more than any Corvette ever. Carbon composite underpanels contribute to a 50/50 weight balance and exceptional road behavior. Inside, it is greatly improved over last year, with finer materials, carbon fiber, soft leather and micro-suede accents.

But I'm going out on a limb here and leading this column with what really dazzled me: the mileage! Each day in the C7 (seventh generation) Corvette I found myself shaking my head on achieving either near 30 or even just over 30 mpg on the highway. These are Toyota Camry numbers, you understand?

How did Chevy do it? Well, they used more lightweight materials like a carbon fiber hood, composite fenders, doors and rear quarter panels. But the real credit likely goes to the cylinder deactivation system. Hit the Eco mode and it seamlessly turns that beefy V-8 into a well-mannered 4-banger. You won't notice it, but your wallet will.

Official EPA figures are 17 mpg city, 29 highway. I hit 30 on one commute, and that was with the lower-mileage automatic tranny. Once outside, I looked back to make sure I was still driving a Corvette. (You can lose track when you're in a different car every week.)

OK, I did it. I'm guilty. Now let's get out of eco mode and move on to what excites everyone about this legendary machine.

Available in a coupe and convertible, the 'Vette's exterior has sharper edges, functional inlets and Bigfoot tires give it an aggressive, almost angry character.

And it backs it up on the road, punching out 0-60 figures in under 4 seconds. The cast-aluminum V-8 offers more power—455 horsepower and 460 pound-feet of torque—than ever before. And most of that torque is the racing kind: low-end torque for great early punch.

Both the manual and automatic transmissions offer a launch control mode for even bolder starts.

A drive mode selector on the center console lets you choose your driving mood, with five options ranging from Touring to the top-performance Track mode. And there's nothing phony about it: They are distinct rides as the system adjusts steering response, agility and throttle response.

If you can swing it, spend the extra $2,800 for the Z51 performance package, which provides quicker gearing to get you to 60 in 3.8 seconds, plus bigger wheels—19-inch up front, 20 in the rear—bigger brakes and electronic limited-slip differential.

An optional dual-mode exhaust is music to the ears; no need to feel guilty if you want to give it a few extra revs now and then.

Tackling corners is done in confidence with a variable-ration rack-and-pinion steering system that has great feedback and grip that is nothing less than exceptional. The stiffer frame and revised suspension system work to keep it stable. And 20-inch wheels in the rear and 19-inchers up front improve maneuverability.

Stingray is equally pleasing on the highway. It is comfortable and smooth enough for trips as well as short jaunts.

Use fix-a-flat product if you must but best follow up with tire repair

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: Last week I had a flat tire on my 2013 Buick Encore with only 4,500 miles on it. I got out my can of tire inflator and when I read the directions it said it could not be used on tires with pressure sensors in them. Is it because it would ruin the transmitter or because the sealant could not get into the tire? Could you use it in a real emergency? When I took the car to the dealer after putting on the spare, they said it was repairable and did so. I was told I was lucky because on all-wheel-drive vehicles you have to change all of the tires at the same time. I have never heard of this before—can you explain?

ANSWER: The primary ingredients in most emergency tire inflator "fix-a-flat" aerosol products are a liquefied propellant like nonflammable HFC-134a—the refrigerant used in air conditioning systems—and a latex polymer to seal the inside of the tire.

Some earlier products utilized flammable propellants, which created a danger for the service personnel repairing the tires.

The reason these products are not recommended for use in tires fitted with tire pressure sensors (TPS) is that the latex sealer may coat and interfere with the signal transmitted from the TPS, although this potential issue is still being hotly debated. What is absolutely true is that the latex sealer will have to be thoroughly cleaned from the inside of the tire, wheel and TPS. In addition, there is a potential issue with corrosion and delamination of chrome from the inside surfaces of a chrome alloy wheel.

Regardless, it is important to remember that these products are, at best, a very short-term, temporary "fix." The tire must be cleaned and repaired—if possible—at soon as possible.

Should you use an aerosol tire inflator in an emergency such as being stopped in a dangerous scenario or situation where taking the time to mount the spare tire would add to the risk? I would. If the fix-a-flat product will inflate and maintain enough tire pressure to allow me to drive to a safe location, I would certainly use it.

But I'd make absolutely sure to tell the service agency that you used a tire inflator and have the tire repaired or replaced as soon as possible.

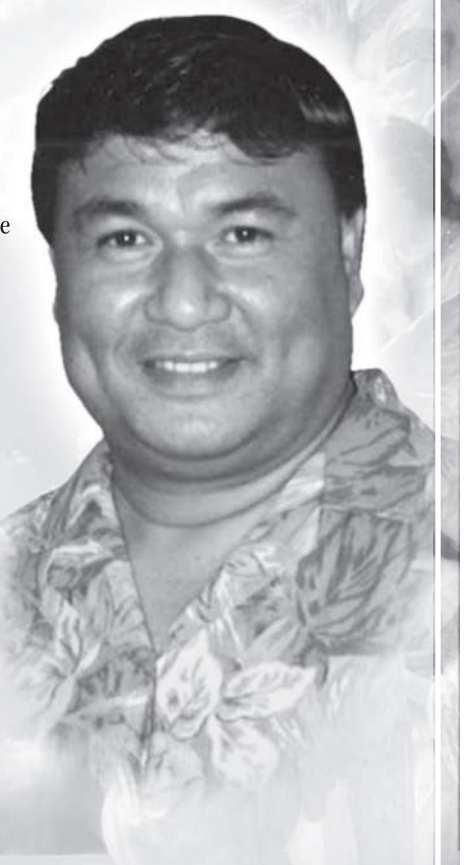
The reason for suggesting that all four tires must be replaced at the same time is because four-wheel or all-wheel-drive vehicles must have all four tires with the same rolling circumference or potential damage to the drivetrain can occur. As long as the single replacement tire is virtually the same rolling circumference as the other three tires, there is no problem.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, *is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver.*

In Celebration of His New Life

Francisco Sablan Rosario

Lovingly known as "Ankie/Tikkuling"



Was born to Life on July 19, 1950 and called to his Eternal rest on July 17, 2014 at the age of 63.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father: †Juan Del Rosario
†Francisco A. Manahane
Mother: †Magdalena Mangarero Sablan Manahane
Brothers: †Jose S. Del Rosario
†Ronald Henry S. Del Rosario

His loving memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Children:
Laurence/Pauline Rosario (Corban/Nicole (Franklin), Colvin)
Lucinda/Chris Selepeo (Jeb/Aliesner, James/Moneke (Kalaysha and Kelelia), Jonathan, Jerrett, Jovan, Jacris)
Loretta/Julius Dale Ellison (Azaria, Adrien)
Rodney/Marla Rosario (Rodney Jekobe, Lilly Sina)
Randy/Vera Rosario (Alexia, Tyrell)
Ramsey/Matilde Rosario (Juvita Magdalena)

Reared Daughter: Rutzel Tugadi

Special Friend: Gloria Hunter & Children

Brothers and Sisters/In-Laws:
John S. Del Rosario Jr./Julie & Children, Herbert S. Del Rosario/Rose & Children, Manuel S. Manahane/Flora & Children, David S. Manahane/Shirley & Children, Emilio S. Manahane/Kumiko & Children, Luis S. Manahane & Children, Maria M. Mickelson/John & Children, Ramon S. Manahane/Amir & Children, Jose S. Manahane/Bertha & Children, Francesca M. Colvin/Russ & Children, Rita Agnes M. Taitano/Canice & Children, Anthony S. Manahane/Frances & Children

He will also be missed by numerous Aunties, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews, Godchildren and Friends.

Nightly mass is being offered at 6:00pm followed immediately by the Holy Rosary at St Jude Church.

On Friday, July 25, 2014, our dearly beloved will be escorted from the CHC Morgue at 7:30am to St. Jude Church. Responso, Holy Rosary and public viewing will follow.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00am, followed by Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where he will be laid to rest.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Olomwaay

From Children, Siblings and Families

Life & Style

Film, TV legend James Garner, reluctant hero, dies

NEW YORK (AP)—Few actors could register disbelief, exasperation or annoyance with more comic subtlety.

James Garner had a way of widening his eyes while the corner of his mouth sagged ever so slightly. Maybe he would swallow once to further make his point.

This portrait of fleeting disquiet could be understood, and identified with, by every member of the audience. Never mind Garner was tall, brawny and, well, movie-star handsome. The persona he perfected was never less than manly, good with his dukes and charming to the ladies, but his heroics were kept human-scale thanks to his gift for the comic turn. He remained one of the people.

He burst on the scene with this disarming style in the 1950s TV Western "Maverick," which led to a stellar career in TV and films such as "The Rockford Files" and his Oscar-nominated "Murphy's Romance."

The 86-year-old Garner, who was found dead of natural causes at his Los Angeles home on Saturday, was adept at drama and action. But he was best known for his low-key, wisecracking style, especially on his hit TV series, "Maverick" and "The Rockford Files."

His quick-witted avoidance of conflict offered a refreshing new take on the American hero, contrasting with the blunt toughness of John Wayne and the laconic trigger-happiness of Clint Eastwood.

Garner displayed real-life bravery. He served in the Korean War and received two Purple Hearts for combat wounds, as he recounted in his memoir.

There's no better display of Garner's everyman majesty than the NBC series "The Rockford Files" (1974-80). He played an L.A. private eye and wrongly jailed ex-con who seemed to rarely get paid, or even get thanks, for the cases he took, while helplessly getting drawn into trouble to help someone who was neither a client nor maybe even a friend. He lived in a trailer with an answering machine that, in the show's opening titles, always took a message that had nothing to do with a paying job, but more often was a complaining call from a cranky creditor.

Through it all, Jim Rockford, however down on his luck, persevered hopefully. He wore the veneer of a cynic, but led with his heart. Putting all that on screen was Garner's magic.

AP

James Garner holds the 41st annual life achievement award backstage at the 11th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in this Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005 file photo taken in Los Angeles.

Well into his 70s, the handsome Oklahoman remained active in both TV and film. In 2002, he was Sandra Bullock's father in the film "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood." The following year, he joined the cast of "8 Simple Rules ... For Dating My Teenage Daughter," playing the grandfather on the sitcom—and helping ground it with his reassuring presence—after star John Ritter, who played the father, died during the show's second season.

He even scored in commercials. During the late 1970s, he was paired with actress Mariette Hartley in a popular series of ads for Polaroid cameras. Their on-screen banter felt so authentic that many viewers mistakenly believed they were husband and wife.

When Garner received the Screen Actors Guild's lifetime achievement award in 2005, he quipped, "I'm not at all sure how I got here." But in his 2011 memoir, "The Garner Files," he provided some amusing and enlightening clues, including his penchant for bluntly expressed opinions and a practice for decking people who said something nasty to his face—including an obnoxious fan and an abusive stepmother.

And when he suspected his studio of cheating him on residual payments—a not-unheard-of condition in Hollywood—Garner spoke out loudly and fought back with lawsuits.

They all deserved it, Garner declared in his book.

It was in 1957 when the ABC network, desperate to compete on ratings-rich Sunday night, scheduled "Maverick" against CBS's powerhouse "The Ed Sullivan Show" and NBC's "The Steve Allen Show." To everyone's surprise—except Garner's- "Maverick" soon outpolled them both.

At a time when the networks were awash with hard-eyed, traditional Western heroes, Bret Maverick provided a breath of fresh air. With his sardonic tone and his eagerness to talk his way out of a squabble rather than pull out his six-shooter, the con-artist Westerner seemed to scoff at the genre's values.

After a couple of years, Garner felt the series was losing its creative edge, and he found a legal loophole to escape his contract in 1960.

His first film after "Maverick" established him as a movie actor. It was "The Children's Hour," William Wyler's remake of Lillian Hellman's lesbian drama that co-starred Audrey Hepburn and Shirley MacLaine.

Batman will not appear in Fox's 'Gotham' series

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Yes, the new Fox series "Gotham" will feature a young Bruce Wayne, but don't expect him to turn into the caped crusader.

Creator Bruno Heller told journalists Sunday at the Television Critics Association summer press tour that "If there is a superhero on this show, it's Gotham."

"To me, heroes are more interesting than superheroes," he said, "because the difference is superheroes do the impossible, and drama is really about the physically possible. This is about people and people trying to overcome real problems versus trying to learn how to fly."

"Gotham" stars Ben McKenzie as Detective James Gordon. Heller says he's "the moral lynchpin of the show. If you look at the mythology, he's the guy that creates Batman or gives Batman permission to exist in that world."

We also meet the future Penguin, future Riddler, future Catwoman and future Joker.

There's a new villain called Fish Mooney, played by Jada Pinkett Smith. The possibility she will evolve into another character from the story's mythology was teased at Sunday's panel.

Season one, says Heller, will focus on the rise of the Penguin, played by Robin Lord Taylor, and his power struggle with Fish Mooney.

"Gotham" is scheduled to premiere Sept. 22 on Fox.

Fox admits 'Idol' has lacked engaging contestants

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—"American Idol" needs to find contestants the audience cares about.

That's a criticism Fox's chairman and CEO, Peter Rice, admitted to journalists Sunday at the Television Critics Association summer press tour.

"We haven't found in the last two years a group of kids who've captured the imagination of the public," he said.

Rice went on to say that "American Idol," launching its 14th season next year, is "aging gracefully."

He said too much attention has been placed on "this constant conversation about who should be judges."

Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban and Harry Connick Jr. will return to the panel for season 14.

Rice acknowledged the obvious—there are a number of shows like "Idol" on the air these days. He still believes "'Idol' has a very committed fan base."

This year's season finale of "American Idol" was its lowest rated yet.

Younger couples weigh in on how they handle money

DEAR READERS: On April 11, I printed a letter from "Wondering in Washington," a man asking why young men in general today have the attitude that "any money I earn is mine" in a marriage or live-in situation. He said when he married, he and his wife considered what they earned to be "theirs"—not his or hers. When I asked my "younger readers" to chime in, I was inundated. Some excerpts:

DEAR ABBY: My husband was 26 and I was 24 when we got married. To me, how young couples handle money says a lot about their attitude toward marriage.

My mother always said, "If you can't trust a man with your money, why would you trust him with your heart?" I kept that in mind when I was dating, so when my boyfriend and I married, we didn't have serious underlying issues like addiction, compulsive spending, etc.

MOM OF 2 IN SEATTLE

DEAR ABBY: My first husband controlled all the money, my pay and his. He bought what HE wanted, but didn't always pay the mortgage or utilities.

In my second marriage, my money is my money and his money is his. If I earn 60 percent of the income, I pay 60 percent of the shared bills. Whatever is left is up to my own discretion to spend, and the same goes for his paycheck.

LEARNED MY LESSON IN FLORIDA

DEAR ABBY: I'm a man in my mid-30s; my wife is in her mid-20s. Many of our friends keep their finances separate, and the reason usually involves hearing their parents argue over money. What I find interesting is that the wife usually came up with the idea.

I believe the separation of incomes starts with young women embracing messages of empowerment they heard growing up and applying them not only to the workplace, but home, as well—plus a healthy dose of entitlement that seems common to their generation.

JUST SAYING, IN WISCONSIN

DEAR ABBY: Male reader here. Gone are the days of the stay-at-home wife who takes care of the house and raises the children. I'm as guilty of those preconceptions as anyone. I thought marriage meant being totally devoted to your spouse and you discussed everything.

I now believe both parties in a relationship have financial responsibilities to the other. In my first marriage, the majority of financial responsibilities fell on me. The financial obligations in my second marriage are different. We have a separate maintenance agreement. I pay only part of our living expenses. I can spend whatever I want, when I want, on whatever I want. This has prevented many disagreements.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

I think the way to handle finances in a relationship is a rock-solid legal agreement and a lot of premarital counseling. Then there are no surprises.

J.G. IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: I'm 32, recently married. I earn more than my husband, and I'm better at managing money.

We plan to set up a joint account for household expenses, joint vacations, etc., and maintain individual accounts for whatever money is left. That way, we have a certain amount of independence and freedom.

We don't consider our relationship to be disposable. But when you grow up like we did and don't marry until your 30s, you live a considerable amount of your life independently. We are happy with this arrangement.

MODERN MARRIAGE IN MICHIGAN

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

QUICK! THROW HIM THE FOOD!
MY SANDWICH HAD MUSTARD. IS THIS ONE YOURS?
PUT ON YOUR VORTEX GOGGLES! WE'RE TAKING OFF!
EWW, THIS BANANA IS MUSHY. HE CAN HAVE THIS.
WE DID IT! WE'RE OFF!
HERE.
BOY, THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL, BUT IT WILL BE WORTH IT WHEN WE GET THESE PICTURES DEVELOPED.
SINCE I RESCUED YOUR SANDWICH, CAN I EAT IT?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

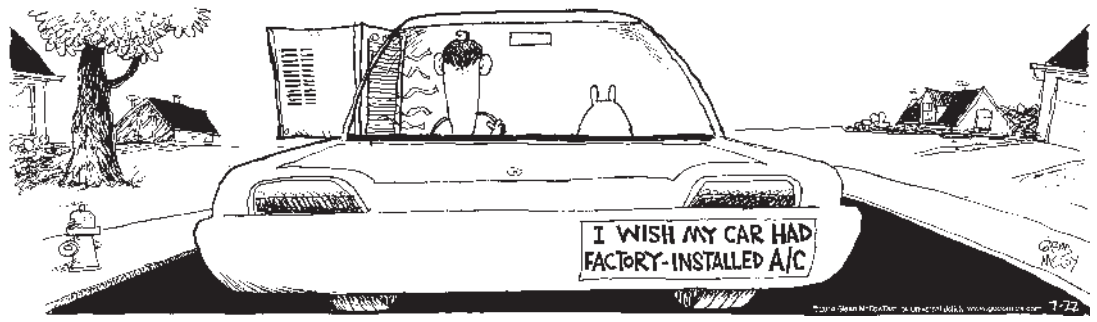
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OKAY, NOW, KATY. WE'RE PLAYING FOR REAL.
YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW. SO NO "LETTING YOU WIN" STUFF.
THIS IS THE BIG LEAGUES. YOU READY?
I FEEL I'M AT A DISADVANTAGE.
HOGWASH. YOU CAN SEE THE ANGLES BETTER FROM DOWN THERE!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

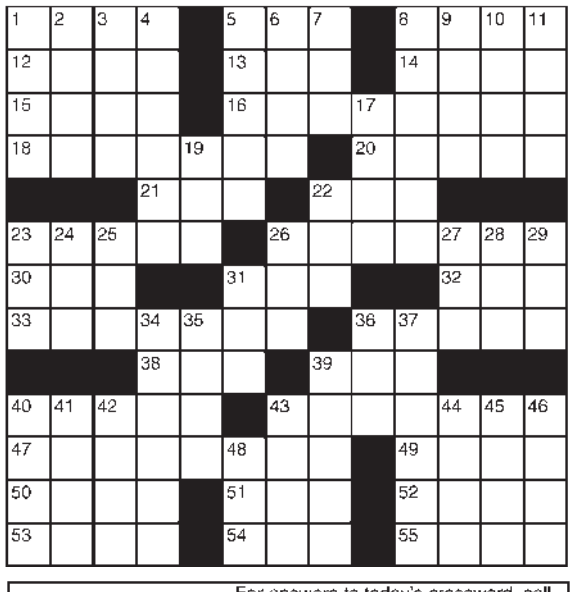
ACROSS
1 Star-spangled banner
5 Brazilian city
8 Engrossed
12 Limping
13 Breakfast for Brutus?
14 Where David slew Goliath
15 Shakespeare's river
16 School fund-raiser, often
18 Rest a bit
20 Up
21 Scepter
22 Auction action
23 Moshe of Israel
26 PETA-friendly wrap
30 Historic period
31 Bliss
32 Buckeyes' sch.
33 Duncan Hines product
36 Big name in grills
38 Rotating part
39 Lad
40 Shopping center
43 Seize an opportunity
47 Hoover Dam reservoir
49 Actress Turner
50 Fermi's bit
51 Early bird?
52 Thing
53 "99 Luftballons" singer
54 Whopper
55 Early condensations

DOWN
1 Level
2 Molten flow
3 Uncontrolled
4 Categories in biology
5 In a kimono
6 Terrible guy?
7 Erstwhile acorn
8 Dwell
9 "Oh, woe!"
10 Ashen
11 Afterward
17 Actor Estrada
19 Heavy weight
22 Serenade the moon
23 Calendar abbr.
24 Coach Parseghian
25 Tibetan bovine
26 Coop invader
27 Watch chain
28 Work with
29 Capek play
31 Huck's raftmate
34 Dermatologist's case
35 Sir counterpart
36 Stir-fry vessel
37 It may be covered in shadow
39 Sheriff's star
40 Blueprint
41 Tardy
42 One-named rapper
43 Creche trio
44 Loathe
45 From the beginning
46 Thanksgiving veggies
48 Conger or moray

Solution time: 22 mins.

B	L	A	M		J	A	W		P	A	D	S
R	A	C	Y		A	L	I		A	M	A	N
A	V	E	R		S	A	R	A	S	C	T	A
S	A	D	I	S	M		E	N	T	R	A	P
			A	T	I	T		D	C	T		
S	A	R	D	O	N	I	C		R	I	D	E
A	G	E		P	E	D	A	L		Z	I	G
P	O	S	H		S	A	R	A	J	E	V	O
		T	A	M		L	O	W	E			
A	T	O	N	E		U	N	T	R	U	E	
S	A	R	D		N	E	S		S	A	N	G
E	V	E	L		I	C	E		C	R	I	G
A	I	D	E		D	O	L		N	E	T	S

Yesterday's answer 7-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Selena Gomez, 22; Rufus Wainwright, 41; David Spade, 50; Willem Dafoe, 59.

Happy Birthday: Put your energy into positive outlets and sure things. Don't let temptations lead you down the wrong path. Stick to what you know and put your time and effort into building a solid base that will help see you through thick and thin. Protect your position, your health and your reputation. Stay calm and you'll outdo any competition you face. Your numbers are 9, 11, 23, 29, 32, 37, 40.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Go over whatever you do carefully. Don't leave room for error. Complaints will weigh heavily on your mind and can create a difficult situation between you and a personal or professional partner. Don't take anything for granted. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Offer assistance and you will be rewarded. Your innovative ideas coupled with your insight and determination will ensure that you are successful, as long as you don't take on too much or try to help too many. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotional deception or disillusionment is apparent. Stick to the truth and ask questions if you think someone may be withholding information. Focus on work, broadening your skills and doing the best job possible with the least amount of fuss. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Use your charm to outmaneuver whoever gets in your way. Changes going on around you must be monitored carefully with full intent to step in and take over if something spins out of control. Keep a watchful eye and avoid a mishap. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Be ready to take advantage of an opportunity or proposal you receive. A change in the way you do things or offer your services will bring favorable results. Offering favors will bring high returns. Unexpected money will come from an unusual source. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Participation is the name of the game. Love is on the rise and discussing plans with someone special will give you incentive to work hard. An unusual partnership will form with someone who has something unique to offer. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Watch what you say and how you handle sensitive situations. An impulsive move can lead to a feud that will leave you feeling uncertain about your future. Concentrate on ways to improve your skills and your standard of living. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Enjoy what life has to offer. Get out and do something you've wanted to do for some time. Enjoy the company of people who share your interests and may want to collaborate in the future. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Check into financial options that can help you save money. Putting your cash into your home or improving your standard of living is a sure way to save for the future. Don't donate to someone else's cause. Charity begins at home. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You may feel better when all the work is done, but you also have to appease those counting on you to take part in activities outside of work. Organization and preparation will help you fit everything into your busy schedule. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't get angry when taking action is required. Put your efforts into home, family and protecting your assets. There is money to be made if you update your skills or develop a service that is needed in your community. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You will be misunderstood on an emotional level if you aren't clear about what you are willing to offer. Put love and romance high on your list and nurture the relationship that means the most to you. Honor a commitment. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have a vivid imagination. You are intelligent and charming.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		9	3		1	4		
	6		2		9		5	
				8				
8	3						7	9
		7				8		
5	4						6	1
				5				
	9		8		2		4	
		4	7		6	1		

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	9	4	7	3	1	8	2	5
3	1	2	8	5	6	7	9	4
5	7	8	2	9	4	1	6	3
2	5	6	4	1	8	3	7	9
9	4	3	5	7	2	6	8	1
1	8	7	3	6	9	5	4	2
7	2	1	9	8	3	4	5	6
4	3	5	6	2	7	9	1	8
8	6	9	1	4	5	2	3	7

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CONSULS GENERAL **Solution: 10 letters**

A	F	E	N	L	F	E	G	U	F	E	R	D	R	R
S	F	A	T	O	A	E	R	I	P	M	E	I	E	O
S	A	M	R	A	S	W	L	A	T	T	E	P	K	S
I	T	M	H	B	T	I	S	E	E	E	R	L	A	I
S	S	E	C	C	A	S	A	N	V	E	A	O	E	V
T	A	T	A	D	P	B	T	I	S	A	C	M	P	R
D	U	T	Y	O	R	E	H	E	L	P	R	A	S	E
E	L	A	R	O	N	R	N	E	D	A	R	T	M	P
P	I	T	A	F	E	T	R	E	A	T	Y	S	I	U
U	V	D	O	V	A	U	Ⓐ	E	T	U	T	A	T	S
T	I	R	E	T	S	K	Ⓢ	U	T	A	T	S	C	E
Y	C	N	I	T	S	N	Ⓘ	S	M	A	E	E	I	V
E	U	V	U	D	O	A	Ⓥ	P	I	L	R	T	V	R
E	E	R	E	F	E	R	A	L	U	S	N	O	C	E
S	N	O	I	T	A	L	E	R	E	M	O	V	E	S

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Abroad, Access, Assist, Career, Civil, Consular, Data, Deputy, Detente, Diplomat, Duty, Empire, Enforce, Forms, Head, Help, Issue, Laws, Liaison, Passport, Rank, Refer, Refuge, Relations, Remove, Representative, Revenue, Rules, Serves, Speaker, Staff, Stamp, State, Status, Statute, Supervisor, Team, Trade, Travel, Treaty, Turn, Victim, Visa, Votes

Yesterday's Answer: Excellent

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 27, 31, 35, 37, 38 or 39** order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: On the crest of a wave

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

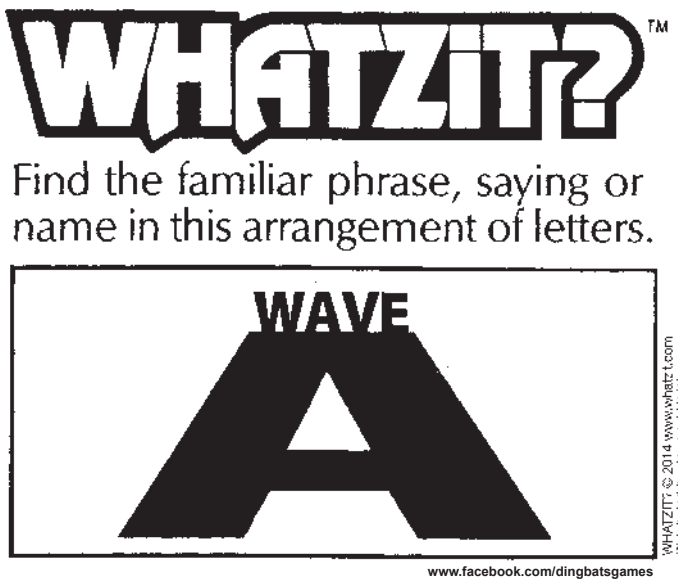
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find today's solution in classified section

HARDT EYE CLINIC and DIABETES EDUCATION CENTER
Announces the following job vacancy:

Position: (1) COMMERCIAL CLEANER

Closing Date: Thursday, July 31, 2014.

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of recent police clearance (from jurisdiction of residence within the last three months); must be a US Qualified Worker only.

Interested applicants may obtain job description with qualifications requirements at HARDT EYE CLINIC Office, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Complete application may be submitted to Hardt Eye Clinic, Attn: Dr. Don Hardt –Owner-Vice President.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(04) Hemodialysis Technician
- Certificate from a Junior College/Technical School in healthcare
- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- Three year hemodialysis experience preferred
- Must be CCHT certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission
- English Language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule

(01) Licensed Practical Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX-LPN and current CNMI LPN License
- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- One to four years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on Thursday, July 31, 2014 by 4:00pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2905 ext. 124.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 07-2010

Opening date: July 07, 2014 **Closing date: July 25, 2014**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position: (1) ARFF Mechanic-III (Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 25, 2014.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA HR Administrator Ms. Rita Omar, by email at rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

Job Vacancy Announcement
Apex Builder's Inc.

(1) Machinist
- Rate: $5.60 - $6.50/hour
- Must be a high school graduate or with a minimum of 5 years experience as a machinist.
- Interested applicants may apply at Apex Builder's Inc. office located at Tun Kioshi, Kileleman Rd. As Perdido, Saipan 96950.
- A copy of Police Clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required.

Closing Date: July 24, 2014
Apex Builder's Inc. dba K Parts
Is an Equal Opportunity Employer

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

EMPLOYMENT

SAN VICENTE ESTATE – (1) Commercial Cleaner. (1) General Maintenance. 3-5 years experience. Valid Driver's License. Police clearance required. Email resume to cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com

1 Farmer/Aquaculture - 2 years experience preferred. Please call 989-1170 or submit resume to Matsumoto Trust at P.O. Box 5057 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950.

Solomon Salon is looking for 2-All Around Beauticians. 2 yrs. exp. Email resume to susansantoscastro@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

American gentleman wants to meet a nice lady. Enjoy happy times with a nice man. Call to meet 287-5522

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

(01) Healthcare Clinic System Manager
- A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience.
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintain all of company's computer systems to include computer hardware, computer software, and computer network and advance server skills.
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software.
- Oversees administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system.
- Building maintenance repair, electronic record and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards.
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned.

(02) Clinic/Yard Maintenance
- Preferred skills and experience
- Building construction/renovation experience
- Must be experience in solar maintenance PV models
- Must be flexible with time schedule
- Must have a valid driver's license

(01) Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician
- Must be over five years experience in electronic health and practice partner records.
- Experience/knowledge with practice partner software in electronic health records usage.
- Must be a bachelor of science in Radiologic Technology.
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licensing Board, CNMI
- At least five years or more experience or related field

(02) Registered Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN licensing
- At least two to five years experience
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic located at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on 07/25/2014 at 4:00p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

Wanted — (1) Technician with knowledge and skill in the operation of a screw type oil press and the processing of oils from nuts. H.S. diploma and 2 years experience preferred. Salary: $5.55-$6.05/hr. Call Mt. Tapochau Farms at 285-5730 for more info.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
WINCHELL'S DONUTS

1 vacancy for **Operations Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level with at least 5 years of continued experience in managing a bakery or similar operations; must be capable of managing 15 or more people and more than one store; must be computer literate and possesses knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must have an experience in handling the administrative and financial aspect of a business. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

1 vacancy for **Store Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level and has at least 2 years of continued experience in managing bakery operations; must have knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must be customer-service oriented, computer literate and confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

4 vacancies for **Donut Makers/Bakers**. Wage ranges from $5.55/hr to $5.70/hr. Must be a high school graduate with an equivalent of at least 4 years experience in baking; must be able to read, write and speak basic English; must be capable of lifting at least 50lbs and has basic mathematical skills and knowledge in operating a cash register or POS system. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese and other foreign languages is highly preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health with good moral character. Must be able to follow grooming standards; provide current police/court clearance and health certificate. Must have reliable transportation and willing to undergo drug test.

Applications may be obtained and submitted at Winchell's Garapan from 8am to 12pm or emailed dennys@guam.net

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$350-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **$600**/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **$550**/month

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater. **$450**/month

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **$700**/month
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **$500**/month
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
- **FREE WiFi**
- **Laundry Area**
- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
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Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

(04) REGISTERED NURSE
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and Current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN) – Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- Must be flexible with time schedule

(04) BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR
- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing, security systems, solar panel maintenance and construction with solectria inverter experience is a must
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- Prefer skills training in electrical, plumbing and building trades areas
- Extensive work experience with hemodialysis/maintenance/plumbing and construction is required
- High school graduate or equivalent
- Must have a valid driver's license

(02) WATER TREATMENT TECHNICIAN
- Must be able to perform task which may at first glance not appear difficult but required a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain system
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment and distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities
- Be familiar with safety and life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency text for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with pressure vessels
- Bea able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques for working with the pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with pvc
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

(02) COMMERCIAL CLEANER
- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, polishers, buffers, etc
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-fee condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste and other disposable materials
- Must handle various cleaning solvents and chemicals that is required by Medicare
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, window, etc
- Empty trash containers daily
- Wet mop floors and bathrooms daily. Damp mop all corridor floors, lobby and others daily
- Report any needed repairs immediately
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients' areas and lobby
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping services
- Is required to clean employee's house prior to and post occupancy
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner at Business, Dr.'s, Accounting, Dietician, and Clinic Manager's Offices
- Must be able to work flexible hours
- Must have own transportation

Interested applicants must submit application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 8/11/2014 at 4:00pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

TAGA
SPORTS
SURVIVING THE LIFE OF STUDENT-ATHLETE
COSINO'S SAIPAN GAMBLE PAYS OFF
TAGA Sports is now on issuu.com/tagasports!
Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA Sports, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!
Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA Sports. Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!
To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

GPPC Inc.

(06) Accounting Technician: $6.00 - $8.25/hour
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Accounting Technician. Capable of performing combined routine calculations, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data to maintain accounting records. Able to check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings; pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers.

(04) Architectural Drafter: $5.60 - $9.00/hour
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings, as well as, drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects, such as highways, bridges, and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials, engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawing drafts.

(09) Auto Body Repairer: $5.60 - $7.00/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Auto Body Repairer. Knowledgeable on repairing, refinishing automotive bodies, and straightening vehicle frames.

(35) Carpenter: $5.60 - $8.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as a Carpenter. Knowledge on how to construct, erect, install, and repair structures and fixtures made of wood; such as, concrete forms, building frameworks(partition, joist, studding, & rafters) and wooden stairways, windows, door frames, and hardwood floors.

(12) Civil Engineering Technicians: $6.75 - $7.50/hour or $1,300.00/month
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician. Capable of applying Theory and Principles of Engineering in planning, designing, overseeing construction, maintaining structures and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist.

(03) Construction Manager: $2,100.00 to $2,700.00/month
College graduate or with a minimum of 5 years experience as a Construction Manager. Knowledge on how to plan, direct, or coordinate, through subordinate supervisory personnel concerning activities regarding construction and maintenance of structures, facilities, and systems. Participate in the conceptual development of project construction and oversee its organization, scheduling, budgeting, and implementation. Include managers in specialized construction fields, such as carpentry or plumbing.

(02) Construction Superintendent: $2,100.00 to $2,500.00/month
College graduate or with a minimum 5 years experience as a Construction Manager. Knowledge on how to plan, direct, or coordinate, through subordinate supervisory personnel, activities in regards to construction and maintenance of structures, facilities, and systems. Participate in the conceptual development of a construction project and oversee its organization, scheduling, budgeting, and implementation. Include managers in specialized construction fields, such as carpentry or plumbing.

(18) Electrician: $5.60 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Electrician. Knowledgeable on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

(02) Electrical Engineering Technician: $6.00 - $8.00/hour or $1,300.00/month
Test or modify developmental or operational electrical machinery or electrical control equipment and circuitry in industrial or commercial plants or laboratories. Usually work under direction of engineers or technologists.

(05) General Maintenance: $5.60 - $6.25/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as General Maintenance. Knowledgeable on how to install equipment.

(25) Heavy Equipment Mechanic: $5.60 - $8:25/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge on how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul mobile mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, used in construction.

(01) Housekeeper: $5.55 - $6.50/hour
Perform any combination of light cleaning duties to maintain private households or commercial establishments, in a clean and orderly manner. Duties may include making beds, replenishing linens, cleaning rooms and halls and vacuuming.

(40) Heavy Equipment Operator: $5.60 - $6.00/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as H.E. Operator. With knowledge on how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concrete or other hard surface pavement.

(10) Truck Driver: $5.60 - $8.60
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as a truck driver with knowledge in driving a factor-trailer combination or truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW, to transport and deliver quarry materials, heavy equipment's or material in liquid, loose or packaged form

(40) Mason: $5.60 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum 5 years experience as a Mason. Must be able to smooth and finish surface of poured concrete, such as floors, walkways, tile settings, brick lying, sidewalk, roads or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs or gutters; patch voids and use saws to cut expansion joints.

(10) Painter: $5.60 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with minimum 5 year's experience as a Painter

(10) Plumber: $5.60 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as a Plumber.

(2) Sheet Metal Worker: $5.60 - $7.00/hour
High school graduate with minimum 2 years experienced as a Sheet Metal Worker. With knowledge on how to install pre-fabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air conditioning, or other purposes.

(16) Steel Worker: $5.60 - 7.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as a steel worker with knowledge on how to raise, place and unite iron or steel girders, R columns and structural members to form a completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete. Use a variety of fasteners, rod-bending machines, blowtorches, hand tools, and rod busters.

(35) Welder: $5.60 - $7.50/hour
High school graduate with a minimum 2 years experienced as a Welder. With knowledge on how to install prefabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air conditioning, or other purposes.

(02) Electrical Engineers Technicians: $6.75 - $8:50/hour or $ 1,300.00/month
College graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician plumber with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

(6) Auto Electricians /Electric Motor Re-winder: $5.60 - $8:00 per hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Must be able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles, heavy equipment and plan. Must be knowledgeable on electric motors, alternator, starter motor re-winding. Perform duties and responsibilities with less supervision.

(2) Diesel Fuel Injection Pump Technician: $5.60 - $6.75/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Knowledge on repairing Diesel Fuel Injection components, pumps, injectors and turbochargers.

Interested applicants must be able to work flexible work hours and may apply at GPPC Inc. Office, located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of Police Clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required. Closing date will be on July 26, 2014.

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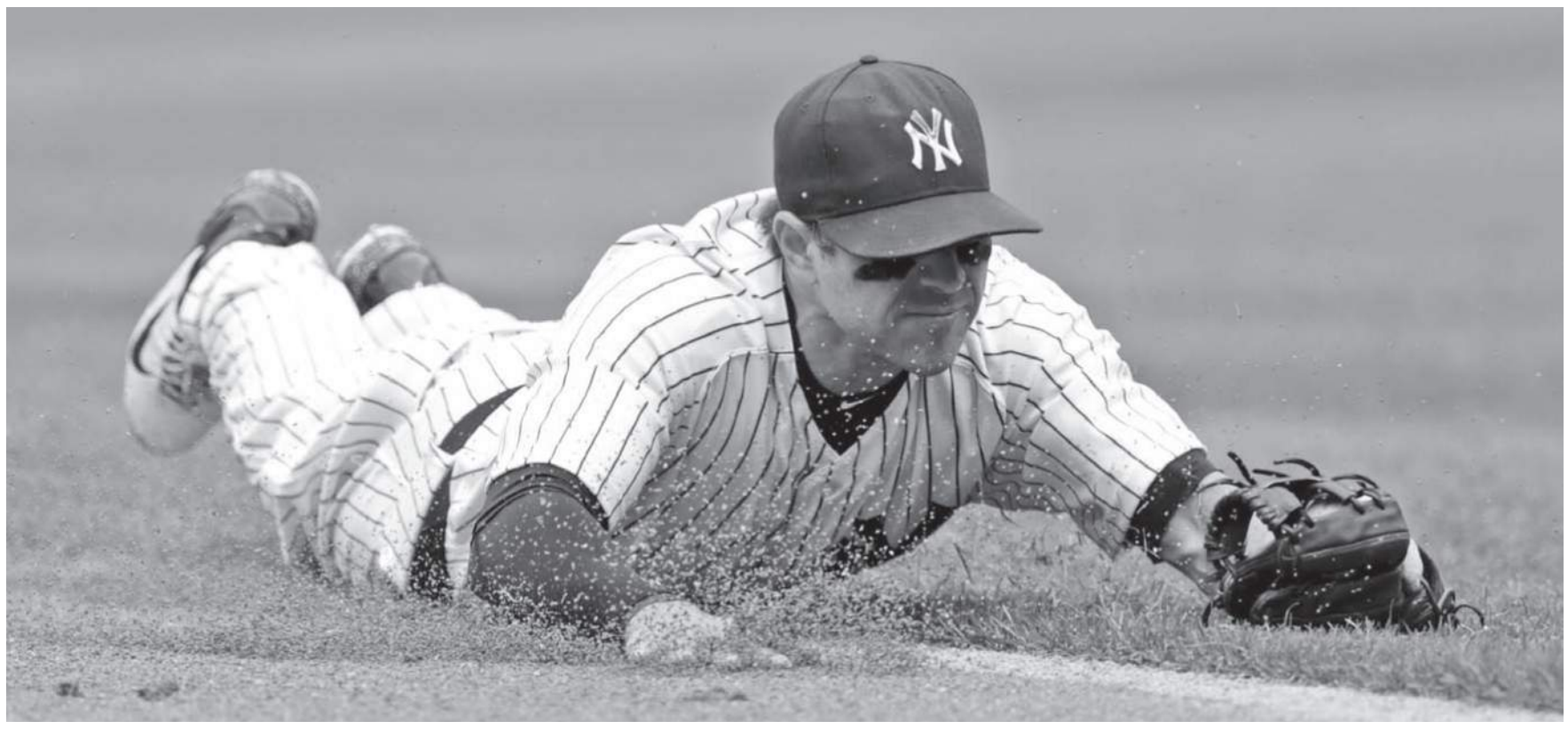
Yankees top Reds, earn three-game sweep



AP

New York Yankees second baseman Brian Roberts makes a diving stop on a ground ball hit by Cincinnati Reds' Billy Hamilton during the fifth inning of a baseball game, Saturday, July 19, 2014, at Yankee Stadium in New York. Hamilton was out at first on the play.

NEW YORK (AP)—Jacoby Ellsbury got four hits and scored the winning run in the ninth inning off Brian McCann's pop-fly single that dropped near three Cincinnati Reds in shallow right field, giving the New York Yankees a 3-2 victory Sunday.

Ellsbury and Derek Jeter each had an RBI single for the Yankees, who finished a three-game sweep in their first series after the All-Star break. Ellsbury also stole two bases and made a sliding catch in center field that saved a run. He reached safely all five times up, including a leadoff single in the ninth off Aroldis Chapman (0-3).

David Robertson (1-2) pitched a perfect ninth to give the Reds their season-high, sixth straight road loss.

Dodgers 4, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, Adrian Gonzalez hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning off St. Louis closer Trevor Rosenthal as Los Angeles salvaged the finale of a three-game series.

The Dodgers pulled into a virtual tie for first place with San Francisco in the NL West despite a so-so outing from Clayton Kershaw, whose run of seven straight starts allowing one or fewer runs came to an end. Yasiel Puig did not play after getting hit by a pitch on the left hand a day earlier and the Dodgers finished without Hanley Ramirez, who was taken out in the ninth—also after getting struck on the left hand.

Gonzalez leads the National League with 38 road RBIs. He missed a chance earlier, flying out with the bases loaded to end the fourth. J.P Howell (2-3) got the last out in the eighth and Kenley Jansen finished for his 28th save in 31 chances.

Blue Jays 9, Rangers 6

In Toronto, Melky Cabrera hit a tiebreaking home run in the seventh inning as Toronto beat slumping Texas.

Cabrera drove in three runs and finished 3 for 5, his 13th multi-hit effort in the past 28 games, as the Blue Jays won their first series since sweeping a two-game set against Milwaukee on July 1-2.

Cabrera's homer came on the third pitch he saw from right-hander Neftali Feliz (0-1), handing Texas its 13th loss in 15 road games. The Rangers have won just four of their past 28 overall and are a major league-worst 39-59. It is the first time Texas is 20 games under .500 since finishing the 2003 season 71-91.

Todd Redmond (1-4) worked one inning for the win.

Tigers 5, Indians 1

In Detroit, Drew Smyly allowed four hits in seven innings as Torii Hunter hit a two-run homer to help Detroit beat Cleveland and avoid a four-game sweep.

Smyly (6-8) didn't give up a hit until Yan Gomes' two-out double in the fifth. The left-hander allowed one run on Gomes' seventh-inning homer—and two walks with six strikeouts.

Josh Tomlin (5-7) allowed four runs, six hits and a walk over 4 1-3 innings.

Red Sox 6, Royals 0

In Boston, Jon Lester allowed no earned runs for the third time in four starts as Boston completed a three-game sweep of Kansas City.

In eight innings, the All-Star left-hander struck out eight and gave up two walks and four hits. Only one Royals player reached third base.

Lester (10-7) is 4-0 with a 0.85 ERA over his last seven starts with 47 strikeouts and eight walks in a span of 52 2-3 innings. He has yielded just one earned run in 31 innings.

Lester extended his scoreless streak to 14 innings before Junichi Tazawa got the first out of the ninth. Edward Mujica retired the next two batters.

Padres 2, Mets 1

In San Diego, Odrisamer Despaigne came within four outs of the first no-hitter in San Diego's 46-year major league history as the Padres beat the New York Mets on Seth Smith's run-scoring infield single in the ninth.

Making his fifth major league start, Despaigne didn't allow a hit until Daniel Murphy doubled to left-center with two outs in the eighth. San Diego, the only active major league franchise without a no-hitter, was playing its 7,264th regular-season game.

Murphy scored on David Wright's single to tie the score 1-1.

Vic Black (2-3) walked Carlos Quentin leading off the ninth, and Alexi Amarista bunted, with pinch-runner Cameron Maybin advancing to second and Amarista reaching when the ball went through Black's legs.

Astros 11, White Sox 7

In Chicago, Matt Dominguez hit a two-run homer and a tiebreaking RBI double as Houston tied its season high with 17 hits in a win over the Chicago White Sox that prevented a three-game sweep.

Chicago fell behind 4-0 early and tied it 7-all in the sixth on Alexei Ramirez's RBI double, Jose Abreu's run-scoring single and a run-scoring two-out grounder by Dayan Viciedo that went through the legs of All-Star second baseman Jose Altuve for Houston's second error of the inning.

Daniel Webb (5-3) allowed RBI doubles in the seventh to Dominguez and L.J. Hoes, and Marwin Gonzalez followed with a two-run single. Dominguez had three hits and four RBIs.

Rays 5, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, James Loney had two hits and two RBIs, and Chris Archer won consecutive decisions for the first time this season as Tampa Bay topped Minnesota for its fifth straight win.

Archer (6-5) pitched 6 1-3 innings, giving up one earned run on six hits. Rookie Kirby Yates got two outs in the ninth for his first career save.

The Rays, who went 11-4 going into the All-Star break, matched their longest winning streak of the season against the punchless Twins, who scored six runs in the three-game series. At 47-53, Tampa Bay hasn't been this close to .500 since May 25, when they were five games under, and went on a 10-game losing streak.

Angels 6, Mariners 5

In Anaheim, Grant Green hit a bases-loaded single off Fernando Rodney with two outs in the ninth inning after Albert Pujols tied it with an RBI double as the Los Angeles Angels pulled out a victory over Seattle.

Rodney (1-4), the former Angels' closer, replaced Joe Beimel with one out in the eighth and retired the next two batters. He entered the ninth attempting to complete a five-out save and record the 200th of his career, but the Angels rallied for their major league-leading 30th come-from-behind victory.

It was Rodney's third blown save in 30 chances this season.

Joe Thatcher (1-1) worked a scoreless inning for the Angels.

Athletics 10, Orioles 2

In Oakland, Sonny Gray struck out eight batters to win his fifth consecutive decision as Oakland pounded Baltimore.

Gray (11-3) gave up two runs, one earned, two hits and two walks in 6 2-3 innings. The 24-year-old right-hander hasn't lost since June 13 at the New York Yankees.

The major-league best A's (61-37) overpowered the AL East-leading Orioles (53-44) in the final regular-season meeting between the playoff-contending clubs. Oakland had 15 hits, chasing starter Kevin Gausman (4-3) in the fifth.

Eric O'Flaherty tossed 1 1-3 scoreless innings, and Sean Doolittle pitched a perfect ninth to help Oakland finish 4-2 against the Orioles.

Marlins 3, Giants 2

In Miami, NL hits leader Casey McGehee homered for the second time this season as Miami took the lead for good on a wild pitch by Tim Lincecum in the seventh inning to beat San Francisco.

Miami stopped a six-game losing streak and averted a three-game series sweep.

McGehee came in with 118 hits and 54 RBIs, and the two-run homer in the first inning was his first since May 10. Lincecum (9-6) allowed three runs in seven innings, ending his streak of wins in four consecutive starts.

Brad Hand (1-2) gave the Marlins' shaky rotation a welcome boost by pitching seven innings to match a career high, and he allowed two runs.

Pirates 5, Rockies 3

In Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen hit a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning and Neil Walker followed with a home run as Pittsburgh overcame a three-run deficit to beat Colorado for a three-game sweep.

With the score 3-all, Matt Belisle (2-6) relieved, and Josh Harrison worked out a seven-pitch walk leading off the seventh. Harrison stole second and scored on a single by McCutchen, who then was caught stealing second. Walker followed with his 14th homer.

Braves 8, Phillies 2

In Atlanta, Tommy La Stella drove in three runs, and Chris Johnson hit a two-run homer to back Alex Wood and help Atlanta rout Philadelphia.

The Braves have won of five of seven and remained second in the NL East, one percentage point behind Washington.

Wood (7-7) allowed three hits and one run with eight strikeouts in six innings to win for the first time four starts.

The first five innings were played in a steady drizzle before heavy rain caused a 1 hour, 39-minute delay in the middle of the sixth.

Philadelphia took a 1-0 lead in the second when John Mayberry Jr. homered, but the Braves went up 2-1 in the bottom half of the inning on Johnson's seventh homer.

Phillies starter Kyle Kendrick (4-10) gave up five hits, six runs, two walks and struck out one in five innings. Over his last six starts, Kendrick is 1-4 with a 6.99 ERA.

Diamondbacks 3, Cubs 2

In Phoenix, Josh Collmenter threw seven sharp innings as Arizona scored on an unusual play in the sixth inning to completed a three-game sweep of the Chicago Cubs.

The only run off Collmenter (8-5) came on Anthony Rizzo's 23rd home run of the season and third of the series.

Arizona's go-ahead run scored from third base when the first baseman Rizzo caught a pop foul while tumbling into the camera well. By rule, runners are awarded a base when a defensive player carries the ball out of play.

David Peralta, who scored on the play, drove in two runs with a double and single.

Jake Arrieta (5-2) allowed three runs and four hits in 6 2-3 innings for the Cubs. Collmenter gave up four hits, struck out four and walked one.

Addison Reed pitched a perfect ninth for his 23rd save in 28 tries.

The Diamondbacks are 3-0 after the All-Star break for the second time in franchise history.

Nationals 5, Brewers 4

In Washington, Jayson Werth hit a game-winning RBI double in the bottom of the ninth after the Brewers tied it in the top of the inning as Washington edged Milwaukee.

Washington's bullpen tossed five scoreless innings in relief of Gio Gonzalez until Rickie Weeks' RBI single in the ninth off closer Rafael Soriano (1-1), who earned the win despite blowing his third save in 25 chances.

McIlroy wins British Open for 3rd major

HOYLAKE, England (AP)—Walking off the 18th green as the British Open champion, Rory McIlroy kept gazing at all the greats on golf's oldest trophy.

On the claret jug, his name is etched in silver below Phil Mickelson.

In the record book, he is listed behind Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods as the youngest to get three legs of the career Grand Slam.

And over four days at Royal Liverpool, he had no equal.

"I'm immensely proud of myself," McIlroy said after his two-shot victory Sunday that was never really in doubt. "To sit here, 25 years of age, and win my third major championship and be three-quarters of the way to a career Grand Slam ... yeah, I never dreamed of being at this point in my career so quickly."

He had to work a little harder than he wanted for this one.

Staked to a six-shot lead going into the final round, McIlroy turned back every challenge. He made two key birdies around the turn, and delivered a majestic drive at just the right moment to close with a 1-under 71 and complete his wire-to-wire victory.

In another major lacking tension over the final hour, what brought The Open to life was the potential of its champion.

After nearly two years of turmoil, McIlroy looked like the kid who shattered scoring records to win the 2011 U.S. Open at Congressional, and who won the PGA Championship at Kiawah Island by a record eight shots a year later.

Boy Wonder is back. Or maybe he's just getting started again.

McIlroy won by two shots over Sergio Garcia and Rickie Fowler to become the first start-to-finish winner since Woods at St. Andrews in 2005. Even with one major left this year, the Northern Irishman already is looking ahead to Augusta National next April for a shot at the slam.

"I've really found my passion again for golf," McIlroy said. "Not that it ever dwindled, but it's what I think about when I get up in the morning. It's what I think about when I go to bed. I just want to be the best golfer that I can be. And I know if I can do that, then trophies like this are within my capability."

McIlroy put an end to this major with a powerful drive down the fairway at the par-5 16th, setting up a two-putt birdie to restore his lead to three shots. He finished with two pars, tapping in for par on the 18th green.

Before leaving, McIlroy turned and applauded the fans in the horseshoe arena who were witness to another masterpiece.

This could have been another romp except for a shaky stretch early for McIlroy, and solid efforts from Garcia and Fowler.

Garcia pulled within two shots with four holes to play until he put his tee shot in a pot bunker just right of the 15th green. His first shot failed to get over the 4-foot sodden wall and rolled back into the sand. He made bogey, and two birdies over the final three holes were not enough. Garcia shot 66 and was runner-up in a major for the fourth time.

"I think that we gave it a good effort," Garcia said. "And there was someone a little bit better."

Fowler, playing in the final group for the second straight major, didn't do anything wrong. He just didn't do enough right to make up a six-shot deficit. Fowler played without a bogey, made three birdies on the last four holes and shot 67.

"He played awesome," Fowler said. "And it was just kind of fun to throw a few shots at him coming. To see him win was pretty cool."

It was the first time two straight majors were won wire to wire. Martin Kaymer did it last month at Pinehurst No. 2, taking the U.S. Open by eight shots.

McIlroy, who finished at 17-under 271, wasn't the only big winner Sunday. Ten years ago, his father and three of his friends each put up 100 pounds ($170) at 500-1 odds that McIlroy would win the British Open before he turned 26.

The kid made good on the best with a brand of golf that had him marked early as golf's next great player.

McIlroy moved up to No. 2 in the world, perhaps on his way to regaining the No. 1 ranking that once looked as if it would be his for years. He ended the 2012 season by winning his second major and capturing the money title on the PGA Tour and European Tour.

Since then, the road has been bumpier than some of the dunes at Hoylake.

Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland holds up the Claret Jug trophy after winning the British Open Golf championship at the Royal Liverpool golf club, Hoylake, England, Sunday July 20, 2014.

AP

Woods says Watson should pick him for Ryder Cup

HOYLAKE, England (AP)—Even after his worst 72-hole finish in a major, Tiger Woods says he would pick himself for the Ryder Cup team.

His first major of the year, and second tournament since March 31 back surgery, wasn't much of an audition for U.S. captain Tom Watson. Woods was never the same after opening the British Open with a 69. The mistakes kept piling up, and so did the big numbers, and he closed with a 3-over 75 on Sunday at Royal Liverpool.

"I just made too many mistakes," Woods said.

He finished at 6-over 294, matching his highest score in the British Open. Only three players had a worse score, including U.S. Open champion Martin Kaymer, and Woods finished in 69th place. His previous worst was a tie for 40th in the PGA Championship last year and the 2012 Masters.

Woods wound up 23 shots behind Rory McIlroy, by six shots his worst deficit ever in a major.

He didn't even beat the 64-year-old captain. Watson birdied his last hole for a 68,

"It's just one day. It's a snapshot," Watson said. "It's not a big deal."

Still, the concern was clear. Watson was speaking to the media as Woods was still on the course when he asked if Woods was shooting under par. Told that he was 4 over at the time, Watson said, "That's not very good."

Woods still has two tournaments left before the end of Ryder Cup qualifying at the PGA Championship. He is No. 72 in the standings, and aside from winning the final major of the year, his best bet is to be one of Watson's three picks.

Asked if he would be inclined to pick him if were in Watson's position, Woods said with a smile, "I would say yes."

"But that's my position, my take on it," Woods said. "He's the captain. Obviously, it's his decision. He's going to field the best 12 players that he thinks will win the cup back. And I hope I'm on that team."

Woods is unlikely to make the FedEx Cup playoffs unless he picked up top-3 finishes at Firestone and the PGA Championship, and that means Watson would have to judge him on those tournaments unless Woods were to play elsewhere. Europe isn't appealing, with events in Denmark, the Czech Republic and Italy.

"It would make it tougher for me to pick him if he's not playing," Watson said.

Watson is more inclined to see more from Woods before a rush to judgment. Woods has played only six rounds since back surgery to alleviate a pinched nerve that forced him to miss three months, including two majors.

The scorecard showed two triple bogeys and three double bogeys. He said his return at Congressional three weeks ago, where he missed the cut by four shots, was at least a chance to make sure he was pain free and shake off some rust.

The hard part was trying not to cry when his mother, Rosie, came onto the green with tears streaming down her face. She was not at the other two majors.

Norway's Kristoff wins Tour stage; Nibali leads

NIMES, France (AP)—Almost at the line, Jack Bauer and Martin Elmiger were exhausted but could see it coming—their first Tour de France stage victory. Those last 50 meters, however, got in the way.

A bunch of sprinters leading the pack came speeding like a runaway train and plowed past the huffing breakaway duo in the final milliseconds. Stage 15 belonged to Norwegian speedster Alexander Kristoff, his second stage victory in this Tour.

The 138-mile (222-kilometer) stage went smoothly for overall leader Vincenzo Nibali of Italy. He made sure his main rivals couldn't claw back any time, and he kept his yellow jersey by finishing in the trailing pack.

After two days in the Alps, Sunday's stage offered some relief over a flat course from Tallard, southeast France's parachuting capital, toward Nimes, known for its Roman arena and bullfighting. More relief comes Monday - a second rest day.

This ride showed yet again on the Tour how mighty efforts so often go unrewarded.

Bauer is a New Zealander who had a better shot of holding off the sprinters than Swiss champion Elmiger. Bauer dropped his bike after the finish line, sat on the ground and cupped his face in his hands, crying. They had led nearly from the starter's gun.

"It's a fantasy for any cyclist to win a stage at the Tour and especially for a Kiwi cyclist, not many of us turn professional and not many of us get a chance to start the Tour de France," Bauer said.

The 29-year-old rider came to the Tour to help Garmin-Sharp leader Andrew Talansky, who dropped out before Stage 12 because of injuries from an earlier crash.

The pack perfectly timed its move on the breakaway duo and proved too strong. Bauer was pedaling with his last remaining strength, and when he looked back a last time they were already zooming by. He finished in 10th place, with Elmiger 16th.

"I really gave it absolutely everything, and as you can see from my meltdown at the finish I was pretty disappointed to come away empty-handed," Bauer added, noting he's usually a support rider. "I thought I had it, but then I realized in the last 50 meters that I had nothing."

The Swiss rider with IAM Cycling took it more in stride. This, after all, wasn't the first breakaway to fail in this Tour.

"I am not disappointed because I actually did not have the best legs today," Elmiger said. "Being caught by the pack is not so bad when you are convinced you have given everything. As I have already said three times this Tour after breaks have failed, one of these days the wheels will turn in my favor."

Kristoff, a Katusha rider who also won Stage 12, sighed in relief.

"It was a little bit late for comfort. It was very close," he said. "I thought I would be second. ... We turned on the gas."

"Of course, that's a pity for them, but I don't feel sorry for them," he said. "Normally, the break should never have had a chance, but they did. They were really strong guys. ... That must have been really hard."

PIC, Kanoa Resort crush opponents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club and Kanoa Resort had rousing debuts in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League as they hammered their respective foes last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

PIC played in the curtain-raiser and whipped Hyatt Regency Saipan, 68-45, while in the night cap Kanoa Resort pounded Mariana Resort, 82-56. PIC and Kanoa joined opening day victors World Resort and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in the win column, while the defending champion Hyatt dropped to a 0-2 record, and Mariana Resort lost its opener.

A solid roster that has big men Bart Demapan and Darwin Barbo and young guns Jack Aranda and Bryle Alegre proved to be too much to handle for Mariana Resort. The foursome combined for more than half of PIC's output with Demapan top-scoring for the team, making 15 points. Barbo and Aranda chipped in 14 and 12, respectively, while Alegre finished with nine.

PIC led from start to finish, taking an early double-digit spread right after the first period, 22-12, to set up the one-sided win. Demapan and company took turns in anchoring PIC's offense in each of the four quarters to hand Hyatt back-to-back losses.

Hyatt suffered the lopsided defeat, as it had only Sahj Hossain and Jun Alipio countering PIC's attack. Hossain recorded a game-high 19 points, while Alipio contributed 13, and the rest of Hyatt's players logged no more than one basket each.

Meanwhile, in the second game, Kanoa stepped on the pedal in the second half en route to the 26-point winning margin against Mariana Resort.

Ahead by only eight at the break, 37-29, Kanoa held Mariana Resort to four field goals and 11 points, while scoring 20 to enter the final canto with a promising 57-40 advantage. Edward Armia led the breakaway, firing eight of his 21 markers in the third period, while Mico Usi added six.

Kanoa went on to pull away further in the fourth frame, as its other players stepped up, while Mariana Resort failed to hit baskets in succession to drop its opening match.

First Game

PIC 68 – Demapan 15, Barbo 14, Aranda 12, Alegre 9, Tolentino 5, Abuy 5, Quitugua 4, Catacutan 2, Bartolo 2.

Hyatt 45 – Hossain 19, Alipio 13, Libuw 3, Ilemelong 4, Muna 2, Benghit 1.

Scoring by quarters: 22-12, 33-23, 49-37, 68-45.

Second Game

Kanoa Resort 82 – Armia 21, Usi 15, Duenas 14, Litulumar 9, De Leon 4, Pablo 4, Cruz 2, Lumauag 2.

Mariana Resort 56 – Manglona 15, Gatdula 13, Bansil 10, Capuli 5, San Nicolas 2, Roskow 2, Camacho 2, Marpuri 2, Omori 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-13, 37-29, 57-40, 82-56.

Kanoa Resort's Fred Litulumar goes up for a point-blanked shot against two Mariana Resort defenders during their game in the Budweiser Inter-Hotel caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Micro Games-bound paddlers get help from IT&E

Members of the CNMI National Paddling Team gathered at Kilili Beach as they always do for another round of training and practice. On this particular day they were greeted with tokens of support and appreciation from IT&E for representing the CNMI at the prestigious 8th Micronesian Games in Pohnpei

Representing the CNMI are Jason Tarkong, Darell Gallardo, Carter Calma, Joshua Andrew, Ben Olopai, James Pedro Aldan, Jack Kabiriel, Eric Macduff and coach Justin Andrew. The paddlers and their coach are members of both the Marianas Paddling Club and the Saipan Paddling Club. The gift items were presented by Rob Harrell, Executive Director of Customer Operations and Natashia Tomokane, Marketing Coordinator.

IT&E is the CNMI's first and leading telecom service provider, specializing in wireless, Internet, long distance, business solutions services and now offering the best 4G experience in the CNMI. ***(PR)***

Members and coaches of the CNMI National Paddling Team pose for a photo at Kilili Beach before heading to the waters.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ABRAMS

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Abrams also posted the fastest qualifying time in the 200m run with her 26.55 seconds on Heat 1. Sapong topped her heat (2), too with her 28.50 seconds to join Abrams in the finals. Friendly Joy Pena was the third CNMI sprinter entered in the 200m run and finished 12th out of 21 in the qualifying heat after submitting 28.97 seconds.

In the women's 100m hurdles, Abrams registered 17.50 seconds to finish ahead of three other finalists. She defeated Pohnpei's Ashley Apiner (17.84 seconds) and Aleina Thomsin (20.79) and Palau's Eliana Koshiba-Panuelo (23.33 seconds).

Several minutes after Abrams gave the CNMI its second gold, Rangamar hauled the third one as she ruled the javelin throw. Rangamar, who holds the Commonwealth's national mark in the event (35.31m/2012 Oceania Area Championships), posted 34.63m to win the gold medal. She prevailed over four Pohnpei bets—Apiner (32.13m), Tracy Ardos (29.06m), Deborah Steven (27.74m), and Sandonia Likor (24.62m).

Meanwhile, the CNMI qualified in both the men's and women's 400m runs. Sapong tallied 1:10.06 in the qualifying heat to finish fifth and earned one of the six finals berth in the race. Pohnpei's Anitra Logirio had the best qualifying time at 1:06.31, while the CNMI's Pena fell just one notch short of advancing into the finals, as she placed seventh in the qualifier with a time of 1:11.43.

In the men's 400, Beo Ngirchongor was ranked fifth after the qualifier, logging 53.61 seconds. Chuuk's Smith Tarrell ruled the qualifier with his 52.32 seconds, while the CNMI's Michael Mancao missed the six-man cut after recording 58.23 seconds.

Ngirchongor also competed in the qualifying heat of the 200m run, but failed to make the grade, placing 10th (out of 23 runners) with his 10th-best 23.58 seconds. Two other CNMI runners faltered in their respective qualifying heats with Brandon Philip recording 23.88 seconds and Tony Ichiou submitting 25.37 seconds.

In other results, Pena missed the medal podium in the women's long jump by just two notches, while the CNMI's bets in the 10,000m run and men's discus throw also fell short on their bid. Pena finished fifth in the long jump after registering 4.05m. Pohnpei's Mihter Wendolin won the gold (4.62m). In the 10,000m run, Jessie James placed sixth with a time of 45:17, while in the discus. Sylvan Rangamar was the best finisher for the CNMI with the field's seventh-best (29.47m). Ronald Olopai had a 28.56m heave, while Daniel Joab recorded 23.43m.

Pohnpei's Magdano Marquez (39:33) and Reloliza Saiman triumphed in the 10,000m races and were the first two gold medalists in the Games

Manny Sablan is flag bearer

CNMI baseball team catcher Manny Sablan was the Commonwealth's flag bearer during the opening ceremony for the Micro Games last Sunday, according to CNMI chef de mission Michael White.

Sablan, his baseball teammates, the CNMI swimmers, some basketball players, and several members of the Commonwealth's athletics team joined more than 1,000 athletes and officials from Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, Kosrae, Marshall Islands, Guam, Palau, and Nauru in the parade of delegations. White and fellow Northern Marianas Sports Association officials Rose Igitol and Kurt Barnes were with the Commonwealth's athletes and coaches during the parade.

White, after the opening ceremony, encouraged the CNMI delegates to give their best performance in the Pohnpei.

"Play hard. Play fair. Do your best. Bring honor to the CNMI, your teammates, your families, and yourselves. Go CNMI!," the chef de mission said.

Meanwhile, results of the swimming and basketball competitions in Day 1 were unavailable at press time. Preliminary swimming races were scheduled in the morning, while the finals were set in the afternoon. In basketball, the CNMI was set to meet Palau at 2pm (1pm Saipan time) in the men's division, while the Commonwealth's women's squad was slated to duel Pohnpei at 6pm.

In baseball, the CNMI plays its first game today against defending champion Palau. Palau goes for win No. 2 after it downed Pohnpei, 5-3, in the opening game yesterday. Guam also won its first assignment, outclassing Kosrae, 7-4.

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failed to complete the plays. The first opportunity came past the 85-minute mark when Joe Miller had a cross pass to Daniel Agulto, who went for a header, but Mongolai's defense was there to block the shot.

Jehn Joyner, who came in for Jireh Yobech five minutes before the second half ended, tried to attack Mongolia's defense anew, but his attempt was way over the goal. The CNMI then went for one final bid to light up the scoreboard under the three-minute stoppage time, but Miller failed to convert on a free kick.

Miller started out for the Blue Ayuyus, along with Noetzel, Kennedy Izuka, Nick Swaim, Kirk Schuler, John Taisacan, Bo Barry, Yobech, Joel Fruit, Jonathan Takano, and Agulto. Trey Dunn, Joyner, and Russell Zapanta were the substitutes.

Meanwhile, the Commonwealth's women's team opened the hostilities in the qualifier last Sunday afternoon and bowed to the host, 0-7.

Guam's women's team got three goals in the first half, courtesy of Paige Surber, Lauren Valla, and Dani Zavala, however coach Sang Hoon Kim said the shots and the conversions did not come easy for Masakåda.

"It's never easy to score goals, but we did the job. The team from the CNMI seemed to play more defensively from the beginning and looked mostly for counterattack opportunities. With our opponents playing more of a defensive game, it was hard to get passes around their backline. We needed to try different combination plays and some worked," Kim said in a press statement.

In the second half, the CNMI continued to focus on defense and made several stops before Guam bagged four more goals. Maria Amezola, Cici Kobinski, Samantha Kaufman, and Surber scored for the host in the second frame.

Meanwhile, both the CNMI men's and women's teams have time to regroup as they take a rest today. The Blue Ayuyus will resume their bid tomorrow when they take on Macau at 3pm, while their female counterparts will also challenge Macau on Thursday.

30th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament Part 1

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An *I Familia* angler poses with their wahoo catch during Day 1 of the 30th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament last Saturday.

An angler from *Here Fishee Fishee 2* shows their 69-lb yellowfin tuna.

Rep. Mario Taitano poses with his skipjack tuna.

An angler from *Isla Marianas* poses with his 135.15-lb marlin.

A young spectator snaps photos of a marlin heading to the weigh station.

Crew members of a boat wait for volunteers who will get their catch and bring them to the weigh station last Saturday at the Smiling Cove Marina.

A father and his daughter show the big and small fish caught in Day 1 of the competition.

Luka & Ben crew members pose with their 149.65-lb marlin.

An angler poses with his big mahi.

An angler heads to the parking lot with his yellowfin tuna.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members and coaches of the CNMI Athletics Team pose for a photo last Saturday before leaving for Pohnpei for the 8th Micronesian Games.

Abrams, Rangamar hand CNMI 3 golds

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI grabbed three gold medals in the opening day of the athletics competition of the 8th Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.

Rachel Abrams delivered two golds for the CNMI yesterday, while Lia Rangamar contributed one.

Abrams earned her first gold medal with a record-run in the 200m race. She clocked in at 26.29 seconds to beat five other finalists and eclipse the CNMI and Micronesian Games marks (26.41 seconds) fellow Commonwealth sprinter Yvonne Bennett logged during the 2010 Micro Games in Palau.

The 19-year-old Abrams defeated Nauru's Fritz Lanja (26.75 seconds), Marshall Islands' Marian Cress (26.99), Kosrae's Lihen Jonas (27.67 seconds), fellow CNMI athlete Zarinae Sapong (28.55), and Palau's Ruby Joy Gabriel (28.57 seconds).

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CNMI drops opening games in EAFF tourney

Guam's Cici Kobinski barrels down the right flank flying past CNMI defenders during the opening match in the Preliminary Round 1 of the 2015 EAFF Women's East Asian Cup last Sunday at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Harmon. Guam won, 7-0.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI absorbed back-to-back losses in the first two days of the Preliminary Round 1 of the 2015 EAFF East Asian Cup.

The recent one came yesterday, as the Blue Ayuyus fell to Mongolia, 0-4, at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Harmon. Mongolia scored two goals apiece in the first and second half, drawing first blood around the 20-minute mark of the opening frame before getting its second goal in the closing minutes of the first period.

The CNMI had three chances to break into the board in the second half after Mongolia zoomed to a 4-0 lead and goalie Johann Noetzel foiled a fifth goal attempt, but the Blue Ayuyus

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